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BYE-GONES,

RELATING TO

WALES AND THE BORDER COUNTIES.

1878-9.

MRS. HARDCASTLE.—Ay, *your* times were fine times, indeed. . . I hate such old-fashioned trumpery.

MR. HARDCASTLE.—And I love it. I love everything that's old : old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine.

OSWESTRY:

PRINTED AT THE CAXTON WORKS, OSWALD ROAD.

(Only one hundred and fifty Copies printed.)



BYE-GONES—INDEX, 1878-9.

A

Aber Church, 37, 54.
Abergele, Seal Found, 143.
Aberystwyth, Prof. Craig, 299.
Aderyn-y-Corph, 2, 8, 264.
"Admiral Hawke" of Aberystwyth, 188.
Aleppo Merchant, 114.
Alveley Church, 339.
America, Welsh Notes, 27.
Ancient British Fencibles, 33.
Anglesey, Agriculture, 46.
Animal Remains, 299.
Arthur's Round Table, 71.
Ashurst, Sir Henry, 144.
Audelay, John, 59.
Author Wanted, 263, 299, 315, 324.

B

Babin's Wood, 218, 234, 263.
Bad Times in 1820, 294.
Baker, Mrs., of Sweeney, 251, 260.
Baldwin, Archbishop, 10.
Balloon Accident, 4, 82.
Bangor Bridge Mountebank, 36.
Bangor Cathedral Inscription, 239.
Bardd y Brenin, 61, 74, 103.
Bardic Seat of Genius, 10, 68.
Barmouth Wreckers, 263.
Beaumaris and Lavan Sands, 67.
Bedd y Cawr, 94, 107.
Bedford, Bishop of, 240.
Bennion's Well, Llanidloes, 139.
Bickertons of Sandford, 81, 206.
Biddulph, Sir T. M., 98, 129, 243.
Bi-lingual Difficulty, 325.
Bishop's Castle Sinners, 84.
Black Barley, 16.
Bonner, Bishop, 29, 36.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES :—

Additions, 221, 347.
Corrections, 17, 71, 316, 347.
A., 30.
B., 48, 63, 78, 104, 116.
C., 133, 148, 156.
D., 170.
E., 180.
F., 199.
G., 212.
H., 224, 231, 234.
I., 244.
J., 246.
L., 254.
M., 287, 302, 311.
N., 316.
P., 319.
R., 327.

WORTHIES, Continued.

S., 332.
T., 339.
U., 344.
V., 345.
W., 348.
Boscobel Oak, 59, 60, 70, 115, 150.
Boycott, Thomas, 21, 90.
Brassey's Bull, 93.
Bridgnorth Births, &c., 139.
Bridgnorth Tippler, 93.
Briefs at Llanymynech, 25.
Brownlow (Lady) Portrait, 190.
Brynellen, 22.
Brynkir, Mrs., 206, 221.
Buckley of Brynddu, 206.
Bulthey, Jones, 2.
Burning Women, 5, 50, 57.
Bury of Eolas, 19, 28, 165.
Byther, 51.

C

Cader Idris, 10.
Caerleon, 71.
Caerwys Eisteddfod, 319.
CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY :
Annual Meeting, 265.
Meeting at Lampeter, 86.
" at Welshpool, 108.
Mr. Picton's Paper, 295.
Mr. Stanley Leighton's Paper, 269.
Rev. Howell Evans's Paper, 274.
Suggestions, 204.
Tuesday's Excursion, &c., 271.
Wednesday's " 275.
Thursday's " 277.
Friday's " 282.
Saturday's " 284.
Cambrian Bibliography, 109, 123.
Cambrian Newspaper, 192, 233.
Cann Office, 74, 86.
Capel's, Lord, Sword, 5, 9.
Cardiff Castle, a drama, 107.
Cardiganshire, Holiday in, 111.
Carnarvon Castle, 196.
Carnarvon Chapel, 29.
Carnarvonshire Election (1768), 220, 230.
Carno, Maid's Patten, 184.
Carriers to London (1637), 167.
Castlereagh, 57, 68.
Celtic Languages, 207, 211.
Celtic Society, Paris, 243.
Chapel of the Red Haired, 319.
Charities of Llansilin, 77.
Charles I., Trial, 10.
Charles in the Oak, 57, 60, 69, 70, 96.
Cheshire Dwarf, 106.

Cheshire Record Society, 67.
Cheshire Sheaf, 74.
Chester and Court of Marches, 231.
Chester Cathedral, 108.
Chester, Execution (1771), 95.
Chester, Explosion, 122.
Chester, Gilchrist Lectures, 133.
Chester MSS., 108, 143.
Chester, Natural Science, 111.
Chester Packet Boat, 22, 143.
Chester See, 29, 36.
Chester, Thieves' Hotels, 191.
Chirk Bridge, Battle, 176, 179, 189.
Chirk Castle Estate, 123.
Chirk Robbery, 39.
CHURCH BELLS :—
Hordley, 323, 332, 347.
Llanbadarn Fawr, 34.
Llandinam, 347.
Mr. Bull, ringer, 127.
Shifnal, 98.
St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 34.
St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, 332.
St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, 86.
Towyn, 264.
Welshpool, 127.
Wrexham, 86, 150.
Churches Falling, 23.
Civil War, 57.
Clark, G. W., 125.
Clawdd Llesg, 294, 306.
Clive, Lord, 2.
Coaches in South Wales, 81.
COACHING DAYS :—
Chester, 198, 263.
Flintshire, 221, 234.
Oswestry, 177, 187, 192.
Shifnal, 198.
Shrewsbury, 211, 242, 264, 294, 316, 325, 347.
Welshpool, 126, 206.
Coedyrallt, 177.
Coelbren y Beirdd, 294, 307.
Confessional in Churches, 38, 44, 81, 84.
Conjuror at Rhuabon, 188.
Conway Ferry, 39, 93.
Conway Fisheries, 26.
Conway River Pearls, 110, 125.
Conway Walls, 55.
Copper Table, 36.
Corbett, Ed. of Kinchester, 253.
Corbet's Wager, 102.
Cornish Centenary, 8.
Corwen Church, Sword, 54.
Corwen, Harp Inn, 197.
Cotes, Mr., M.P., 166.
Cotton, Mr. Robert, 22, 29.
Cotton, Rev. J. A., 33.

Coychurch, Key, 16.
 Craig Howell, 179.
 Crayon Painting, 331.
 Cricket in Cheshire, 260.
 Crillon, Count De, 3, 4.
 Cromlechs in Montgomeryshire, 57.
 Cromwell, a Village, 164.
 Crowner's Quest, 70.
 Croxton Family, 263.
 Cureton, William, 7, 11.
 Cyfarthfa, Glandovey, 198.
 Cycle, The, 154.
 CYMMODORION SOCIETY :—
 Annual Meeting, 132, 327.
 Cowell's Lecture, 45.
 Davies's Lecture, 151.
 Death of Rev. R. Jones, 194.
 Evans's Lecture, 99.
 Transactions, 55.
 Cwm Cerwin, 49, 57.
 Cypher Register, Maurice, 298, 310.

D

D'Aremberg, Duke, 9, 75, 194.
 Davies, Sergeant, 168.
 Davies's MS., 1.
 Dawkins on the Stone Age, 178.
 Dean of St. Asaph, 9.
 De Lacey, 97, 107.
 Dee, River, 1, 4, 30, 233.
 Denbigh History, 97, 107.
 Denominational Statistics, 8.
 Dick Spot, 23, 68.
 Distress in 1816, 149.
 Diving Bell, 143.
 Dolgelley Caravansery, 203, 343.
 Dolgelley Dirty Fair, 253.
 Dolgelley Printers, 347.
 Dolgelley Well, 20.
 Dolwyddelan, 16, 21, 25, 75.
 Donnington Church, 58, 211.
 Double Bass Singer, 8.
 Dovaston's Walnut Tree, 294, 347.
 Drinking Sea Water, 252.
 Duel at Whitchurch, 293.
 Dyer, John at Newtown, 239.
 Dylfau Parish, 38, 62.

E

Edward II., Birth, 196.
 Edwards, Rev. Richard, 52, 63.
 Eisteddfod Music, 108.
 Ellesmere, Frost, 147.
 Ellesmere Market Hall, 348.
 Ellesmere, Pathway in the Mere, 297, 315.
 Ellesmere, Presentation, 33.
 Ellesmere Song, 39.
 Ellis's Soda Water, 286.
Englishman's Right, 9.
 EPITAPHS :—
 Dr. Evans, Llanerchymedd, 16.
 Dr. Langford, Efenechtyd, 114.
 Hughes, of Coedybrain, 22.
 Once as a thoughtless, &c., 233.
 Evans of Llwynygroes, 29, 39, 75.
 Evans the Conjuror, 294, 308.

F

Fairy's Cave, 127, 145, 150.
 Female Freemason, 33.
 Ffoulkes, Archdeacon, 250.
 Fives Courts, 198, 210.
 Flintshire M.P.'s, 309.
 Flood at Llanfihangel, 19.
 Flying Waggons, 294, 316, 325.
 FOLK LORE :—
 Aderyn-y-Corph, 2, 8, 264, 327.
 A Saturday's Moon, 346.
 Charms at Bishop's Castle, 26.
 Clock running down, 149.
 Cuckoo Ale, 102.
 Death Warnings, 149.
 Devil in the Way, 299, 348.
 Fairies' Butter, 110.
 Fields Bewitched, 185.
 Harper and Fairies, 28.
 Maid's Patten, 184.
 Month Day and Week Day, 301.
 May Day at Knutsford, 37.
 Palm Sunday, 204.
 Powdered Skull for Fits, 114.
 Riding the Stang, 192, 197, 220.
 Valentines, 10.
 Walking the Fair, 106.
 Weather Lore, 46.
 Wedding Days, 19.
 Welsh Ambassador, 89.
 Well at Dolgelley, 20.
 Whistlers, Seven, 86.
 Found, W. N., 67.
 Four Alls (at Park), 102.
 Foxhunting and Humanity, 197.
 Frail, John, Death, 191.
 Frankton Church, 4, 339.
 Freedom of Boroughs, 239, 252.
 Freemasonry in the Province, 141.
 French Prisoners, 3, 4, 9, 21, 61, 75,
 103, 120, 155, 194, 212, 222.
 Frobisher, Sir Martin, 60.
 Fuller, Tom, 44, 52, 68, 73.

G

George III. Stoned, 6.
 Giraldus, 10, 14.
 God's Judgments, 84.
 Gooseberry Shows, 309.
 Gore, Coming-of-age, 243.
 Gower Express, 130.
 Griffith's Ghost, 38.
 Griffith Owen, harper, 297, 315.
 Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar,
 233, 245, 252, 253, 286, 300, 308,
 319, 327.
 Guinea Notes, 10, 13.
 Gwenwynwyn's Charter, 39.
 Gwyddelwern Church, 121.
 Gwydir Chapel, 106, 120.

H

Hair Powder Tax, 90, 95.
 Hardingwood, Cheshire, 74.
 Hardwick Pew, 170.

Harvest of 1795, 69.
 Hawkestone Tent, 168.
 Heber's Hymn, 5, 129.
 Hendre Oak, 195.
 Henllan Church, 178.
 Hereford Cathedral, 23.
 Herefordshire Cider, 29.
 Herefordshire Highwayman, 74.
 Herefordshire Soldiers in 1597, 164.
 Hoadley, Bishop, 36.
 Holbach Deed, 1.
 Holly Bush Inns, 195.
 Holywell, Bell Ringing, 222.
Hours amongst the Rocks and Clouds,
 106.
 House in fourteen places, 74.
 Howell, Rev. Griffith, 260.
 Humphrys, Jacob, 114.
 Hunting Club at Kerry, 3.
 Hunting Incident, 347.
 Hwy Pery Clod Na Hoedl, 230.

I

Illiterate Notice, 260.
 Ireland, John, 316.
 Ireland: Welsh Soldiers, 183, 343, 347.

J

Jackson, Miss, 238, 263.
 James the First, 217.
 Jeavons, the Engraver, 212.
 Jenkins, Arms of, 43.
 Jenkins, Lady, 67.
 Jesus College, Oxford, 151.
 Jones, Bulthey, 2.

K

Katerfelto, 89.
 Kennedy, Printer, 5, 129.
 Kenyon and Coaching, 316, 325.
 Kenyon, Malpas, Poems, 26.
 Kerry, Cwm-Earl, 20.
 Kerry, Hunting Club, 3.
 Key at Coychurch, 16.
 King of Great Britain, 217.
 Kinnerley Castle, 230.
 Kirk, Colonel, Token, 14.
 Knights of the Spur, 253.
 Kynaston, Monument, 170.

L

Ladies of Llangollen, 209, 238, 251,
 325.
 Land Slip, Newtown, 293.
 Lavan Sands, 67.
 Lichfield, Bishop of, 35.
 Llallawg, Death of, 261.
 Llananno Church, 125.
 Llandrynog Church, 22.
 Llanfihangel Church, 115.
 Llanfihangel, Flood, 19.
 Llanfyllin, French Prisoners at, 120,
 222.
 Llanfyllin, Old Peggy, 191.
 Llanfyllin Races, 165, 167, 178, 185.

Llangedwin, The Pretender, 13.
 Llanidloes, Lead Mine, 245.
 Llanidloes, Wells, 139, 166.
 Llanrhaeadr, 233.
 Llanisilia Charities, 77.
 Llanychaian Church, 115.
 Llanycil Church, 230, 245, 264, 338.
 Llanymynech Briefs, 25.
 Llanymynech Ogo, 127, 145, 150.
 Llanymynech, Pindar, 50.
 Lloyd, Bishop, 35, 41.
 Lloyd, Grant of Arms, 230.
 Lloyd of Allington, 233.
 Lloyd, Sir Richard, 14.
 Lloyd of Aston, 338.
Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry, 41.
 Llywel Vicarage, 25.
 Loggerheads, Three, 5.
 Lord Mayor Swinnerton, 62.
 Loutherbours, 197.
 Ludlow, Palmer's Guild, 178.
 Ludlow Prizefighters, 73.

M

Machynlleth Bridge, 14, 114.
 Machynlleth Inscription, 233, 239.
 Machynlleth, Owen Family, 36, 50.
 Mackerfield, 41, 46, 52, 131.
 Manganese in Flintshire, 205.
 Mantua Makers, 142.
 Marches, Court of, 231.
 Market Reports, 260.
 Marsh, George, 29.
 Mason, Philip, of Usk, 74.
 Mathravel, 230.
 Mawddwy, Characteristics, 315.
 Meares, George, Esq., 210, 221, 331.

MERIONETHSHIRE :—

Bard, 61, 74, 103.
 Hills, 44, 52, 68, 73.
 Volunteers, 194, 245.
 Merlin's Prophecy, 260.
 Microphone discovered, 123.
 Middle Church Pews, 37.
 Militia, 43, 63, 73, 75, 91.
 Milton's Widow, 170, 311.
 Moel Meirch, 114.
 Moel Vamma Tower, 165.
 "Mochyn-y-Nant," 188.
 Mold, Local Rhyme, 198.
 Money in 1694, 25.
 Montgomery, Rev. R., 4.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE :—

Chartist History, 220.
Collections, 94.
 Cromlechs in, 57.
 Emigration from, 342.
 French Prisoners, 103, 120, 212, 222.
 Gaol, 81, 92, 97.
 Mansion, 166.
 Volunteer Legion, 242.
 Morgan, John, M.P., 3, 7.
 Morgan's Bible, 144.
 Morris, William, poet, 205.
 Mostyn of Mostyn, 294, 309.
 Municipal Honours, 163.
 Mynde, Abbot, Bed, 244.

N

Nash Point, 6, 10, 30, 50.
 News Agents (1794), 168, 185.
 Newspapers (1802-4), 188, 212.
 Newtown Church Treasures, 46, 207, 239.
 "Land Slip, 293.
 "Lovers, 163.
 "Methodism in, 165.
 "Piscator, 7, 40.
 "Nimrod" at Ynysmaengwyn, 245.

O

Oak at Hendre, 195.
 Oaken Gates Wakes, 262.

OLD FOLKS :—

Beavan, Talgarth, 306.
 Billings, Longner, 68.
 Booth of Berriew, 180.
 Edwards, Abersychan, 17.
 Hugh Llewellyn, 111, 125.
 Jones of Llanefydd, 243.
 Lewis Evans, Llechwedd Du, 68.
 Marsli Hen, 110.
 Mary Zebulon, 165.
 Morgan of Trawsfynydd, 165, 168, 170.
 Peter Lloyd, 111.
 Wakley, Shifnal, 68.
 Yates, Shifnal, 68, 94.
 Old Tower Halfpence, 239.

OLD OSWESTRIANS :—

Dick Spot, 23, 68.
 Edw. Wynne Evans, 7, 196.
 Edwards, Vicar, 52, 63.
 Evans, the Bellman, 20, 28, 168.
 Francis Campbell, 262, 316.
 John Bradbridge, 325.
 John George, 67.
 John Lloyd, 62.
 John Swinnerton, 62, 91.
 Miss H—, 144.
 Mrs. Barrett, 72, 104, 114, 139.
 Mrs. Hennings, 294, 347.
 Mrs. Mary Hall, 90.
 Rev. T. Salvey, 13, 107.
 Robert ap Howell, 50.
 Stannay, David, 331.
 "Robert, 331.
 Stanye, Richarde, the elder, 25.
 the younger, 130.
 William Hyffield, 262.
 William Leigh, 18, 298.
 Orchids near Dolgelly, 81.

OSWESTRY :—

Bishop Lloyd, 35, 41.
 Brawning, 210.
 Brynhavod Lane, 220, 234.
 Charters Copied, 76, 83, 149, 154, 167.
 Chess Club, 203, 212.
 Church, by Rev. W. Howell Evans, 274, 298.
 Coaching Days, 177, 187, 192.
 Combe, French Prisoner, 21.

OSWESTRY, continued.

Corporation Records, 84, 91, 102, 113, 126, 138, 142, 162, 164, 166, 178, 184, 193, 203, 220, 229, 242, 262, 318, 324, 326, 338.
 Count de Crillon, 3, 4.
 Davies's MS., 1, 83.
 Deserter, 167.
 Duke D'Alembert, 9, 75, 194.
 Ecclesiastical History, 343.
 Felton Family, 315, 343.
 First Meeting House, 303.
 Fives Courts, 210.
 Fox's Waggon, 95.
 French Prisoners, 3, 4, 9, 21, 69, 75, 155, 194.
 Grammar School, 108.
 "Justice" and Coroner, 323.
 Llwynymaen Collieries, 62.
 Loyalty, 191.
 Madam Baker of Swiny, 251, 260.
 Mail to Welshpool, 115.
 Market in 1795, 69.
 Militia Ballot, 43.
 Municipal Fines, 122.
 Names of Streets, 7, 11.
 Naturalists' Field Club, 76, 292.
 Oakhurst, Reliquary, 14.
 Ogee, French Prisoner, 21.
 Old Agricultural Society, 301.
 Old Chapel Ministers, 144.
 Old Church, 298, 319.
 Old Farmer, 261.
 Oswald's Death-place, 41, 46, 52, 131.
 Oswald's Well Magazine, 92.
 Phillippin, General, 69, 155.
 Presents to Mayors, 122, 124.
 Printers, 189.
 Quarter Sessions, 145, 168.
 Rangers, 60, 167, 203.
 Regrating, 97.
 Roman Catholics in, 124.
 Sharta Gutta, 149.
 Street Act, 85.
 Theatre, 11, 15, 26, 30, 34, 50.
 Toll Case, 13, 40, 95.
 Town Council, 1836, 120, 144.
 Town Seal, 9, 287.
 Trees, 19, 24.
 Valentines, 10.
 Venables, Rev. J., 286, 299.
 Volunteers, 167, 263, 217.
 Watchmakers, 262, 316, 333.
 Weather Signs, 163, 300.
 Williams Slain, 57.
 Wilmot, 4.
 Window in School Chapel, 243.
 Owain Brogyntyn, 5, 9.
 Owen Gwynedd's Pedigree, 17, 38.
 Owen Family, 36, 50.
 Owen, William, 231, 252.

P

Parish Law, 154.
 Patriotic Songs, 186.
 Pearls in the Conway, 110, 125.
 Pelham, J. Cressett, 61, 72, 286.
 Pembroke, French Prisoners, 61.

Peninsular Heroes, 264.
 Pen Maen Mawr, 12.
 Pennant's Marriage, 144.
 Pennant on Coaches, 221.
 Pennant's *Tours*, 74, 104, 107.
 Penrhos Church, 125.
 Percy's *Reliques*, 205.
 Petit-Treason, 5, 50, 57.
 Pezron's *Antiquities*, 44.
 Phillips, Edward, 6.
 Pindar, Charles, Tablet, 50, 90.
 Platycesium Alcornne on Cader, 69.
 Plinlimon, 102, 106.
 Plowden Saw, 3, 6.
 Postal Regulations, 212, 233.
 Post Office Curiosities, 83.
 Powis, Duke of, 102.
 Powis, Lord, 2.
 Powys-land Club, 34, 94, 103, 308.
 Prees Miser, 50.
 Pren y Grog Pren, 40.
 "President's Chair," Poem, 96.
 Pre-tender, the Young, 13.
 Prince's Oak, 262.
 Printers' Rollers, 82.
 Provincial Printers, 125.
 Puleston of Emral, 2, 209.
 Puleston, Sir R., 262.
 Punishment by Burning, 5, 50, 57.
 Punishment for Short Measure, 165.

Q

Queen Victoria's Head, 11.

R

Rachel's Well, 166.
 Railroad in 1805, 326.
 Railway Clerk, oldest, 67.
 Randles, Miss, of Wrexham, 75, 107, 123.
 Reliquary at Oakhurst, 14.
 Rhuddlan Drainage, 40.
 Richmond, Earl of, 62.
 Roman Bridge, &c., 251.
 Roman Urn at Caerhun, 93.
 Rotherwas, 29.
 Ruyton Castle, 27, 33.
 Ruabon, or Rhuabon, 212.
 Ruthin, Stones at, 236.

S

Sabbath-breaking, 84.
 Sadler, the Aeronaut, 4, 82.
 Salesbury Welsh *Testament*, 130, 144, 150, 163, 167, 170, 189, 194.
 Salisbury's Library, 306.

SALOPIAN PHRASES:—

Bonny Sweep All, 13.
 Case is Altered, &c., 3, 6, 30.
 Cross your Throat, 33.
 I'll live in Hope, &c., 13.
 In the Leasow, &c., 13.
 S'help me, 33.
 Thank you for me, 7, 11.
 Wish I may never, 33.

SALOPIANS:—

Andelay, John, 59.
 Baugh, Robert, 39, 75.
 Burney, Dr. C., 17, 33.
 Cureton, 7, 11.
 Eyton, Roger, 163.
 Gill, Dr., of Wem, 22.
 Hain Friswell, 21.
 Hardwicke, William, 251.
 Meteyard, Eliza, 198.
 Phillips, Edward, 6.
 Plowden, 3, 6, 30.
 Rowland Hill, 18, 96.
 Salweys, of Ludlow, 107.
 Sidney, Sir Philip, 146.
 Warter, Rev. Edward, 140.
 Wright, Thomas, 22.
 Salt Duty, 61, 72, 286.
 Salusbury of Erbistock, 298, 316.
 Sand for Glass Making, 306.
 Scarcity of Grain, 69.
 Scripture Reading, 96.
 Selwyn, Bishop, 35.
 Settlement of a Pauper, 154.
 Severn Legend, 90.
 Severn, Wye, Rheidol, 102.
 Seyncte Davodd, ballad, 12.
 Shelley at Tremadoc, 23, 43, 57.
 Shelton Oak, 9.
 Shifnal Church, 339.
 Sheriffs, Presents to, 122.
 Siddons, Mrs., 163.
 Sidney Breese, 68.
 "Silverpen," 198.
 Simnel Cakes, 67.
 Sion Rhydderch, 38.
 Sixteen places at once, 74.
Sketches and Characters, 2.
 Small Notes, 10, 13, 242.
 Snowdon, Height of, 198.
 Spectre on Yr Eifl, 301, 308.
 Spurstow Spa, 106.
 Staney Family, 25, 130, 331.
 Stoning George III., 6.
 Storm at Wynnstay, 114.
 Storms in 1805, 245.
 Striking the Day of Month, 147.
 St. Winefred's Well, 96, 149.

SHREWSBURY:—

Ancient Customs, 38.
 Bones unearthed, 143.
 Bradford, Lord, Gift, 250.
 Coach Procession, 211.
 Crank, G., clothworker, 177.
 Disraeli v. Yardley, 143, 147.
 Fine Art in, 331.
 Five Men Hung, 115.
 Flogging in Gaol, 84.
 Frail, death of, 191.
 Gas Explosion, 128.
 Lord Hill's Column, 85.
 Mytton, Symon, of, 107.
 Owen, Captain Campbell, 239, 252.
 Phillips, Historian, 245.
 Pillory in, 84.
 Rogers (Rhydderch), printer, 38.
 Sayer, Nimble Salopian, 93.
 Schoolmaster Abroad, 69.

SHREWSBURY, continued.

School Motto, 323, 343.
 Short Measure, 165.
 Show (1803-4), 109, 206.
 Talfourd and the Cat, 106.
 Webb, Welcome Guest, 103, 120.

SHROPSHIRE:—

Accident at Assizes, 70.
 Archaeological Society, 35, 57, 76, 140, 231, 254, 292, 344.
 Bible Society in, 185.
 Cricket in, 260.
 Compounders, 124, 169.
 Drinking Cup, 36, 40.
 Evans's Maps of, 29, 39, 75.
 Floods in, 131.
 Foxhunting, 93.
 Glossary—Jackson, 26, 99, 230.
 Great Frost, 1738, 115.
 Hales Owen, Inquest, 70.
 Inn Signs, 81, 94, 93, 179.
 Litigants, 253.
 Modern Ploughing, 261.
 Old Sportsman, Green, 191.
 Pearson's *Antiquities*, 315, 325.
 Pheasants in, 114.
 Poets: Henrietta Rhodes, 179.
 "Jonathan Brookes, 165.
 "Mrs. Townsend, 165.
 Prizefighting in, 73.
 Robbery and Murder, 299.
 Servant Girl's Letter, 124.
 "Squire Tinker," Dog, 127.
 Story, 154.
 Vegetarian, 177.
 Weights and Measures, 115.
 Woods, their extent, 15.
 Word Book, 238, 263.
 Worthies, 297.
 Wrekin Geology, 15.

T.

Tankard Hall, 163.
 Teetotal Houses, 68, 92.
 Telegraph 70 years ago, 85.
 Token, Col. Kirk, 14.
 Tomkinson of Nantwich, 3, 10.
 Tottenham, Col., 147.
 Townshend, Sir Robert, 92.
 Tree in eleven places, 83.

U.

Uppingham by the Sea, 59.
 Usk Giant, 74.

V.

Valentines, 10.
 Value of Money, 25.
 Vaughan, Henry, 50.
 Veteran Curate, 243.
 Vigna and Clogau Mine, 299.
 Volunteer Army in 1803-6, 60, 167, 194, 203, 219, 245, 263, 287.
 Volunteer Drinking Cup, 36, 40.

W.

WALES :—

- Aberystwyth, Black Barley, 16.
 Agricultural Show, 1819, 264.
 Antique Intaglio, 13.
 Bible in, 94.
 Bidden Weddings in, 120.
 Capel Curig Road, 39.
 "Calvary" Group at Pantassa, 231,
 Compounders, North, 195.
 " " South, 211.
 Cuckoo in, 89.
 Evans's Maps, 29, 39.
 Ezekielites in, 97.
 Faithless Women, 13.
 Fields Cursed, 185.
 Floods in, 181.
 Fuller, Thomas, in, 44, 52, 68.
 Game Preserving in, 120.
 Judges in, 50.
 Kilkenny Fern in, 299.
 Limestone Club in, 133.
 Meetings of Aid, 212.
 Midwife at Rhos, 14.
 Mining and Miners, 99.
 Names of Places in, 67.
 Newspaper, first (Welsh) published,
 211, 222, 231, 245.
 Newspaper, first (English) pub-
 lished, 192, 233.
 Petroleum in, 110.
 Phonetic Spelling, 13.
 Plant on Cader Idris, 69.
 Place Names, 295.
 Powder Mill in, 103.
 Price of Labour (1800), 178.
 Prince of, Flintshire, 40.
 Prince of, Birth, 196.
 Printing in, 309.
 Quakers in, 73.
 Queen Victoria in, 70.
 Ravenstein on Language, 207, 211.
 Rock on Cader Idris, 10, 68.
 Rock in form of head, 11.
 Roman Remains, 251, 286.
 Signboards in, 92, 127.
 Stage Coaches in, 81.
 St. Winefred, 96, 149.
 St. David's Day, 12, 14, 19, 22, 186.
 Thieves' Houses in, 191.
 Townships in, 103.
 University Coll., Ellis, 243.
 Value of Land (1816), 185.
 Wattlesborough Castle, 269.
 Weather in 1805, 243.
 Webb, the benevolent Mr., 103, 120.

WELSH :—

- Almanacks, 128, 131.
 Charity School, London, 26.
 Costume, 83.
 Couplet, 263, 299.
 Crusaders, 10.
 Customs : Bell-Corn, 37.
 Doctress' Bill, 176.
 "Eminent" Welshmen, 113, 206.
 Events, 113.
 Fasting Girl, 93

WELSH, continued.

- Funeral Customs, 33, 35, 37, 44.
 Fusiliers, 123, 127, 139, 143, 145,
 147, 150.
 Greta Green, 130, 165.
 Harper, 297, 315.
 Hoax at Kendal, 114.
 Hymn, Qy. Author, 230, 243.
 Judges and Circuits, 50, 62, 82.
 Language, Bompes' Report, 69.
 Language, on Borders, 102, 325.
 Library, Jones, 306, 344.
 Line of Demarcation, 102.
 Lump, or Stick, 188, 196.
 Martyr, 307.
 Meadow, 81.
 Motto, 338.
 Names of Places, 242.
 Patronymics, 163.
 Poems in 17th Century, 37.
 Poets, &c. :—
 Cywydd i'r Arian, 219.
 Cywydd i Erfyn, 223.
 Cywydd Marwnad, 132.
 I'r Abad Dafydd, 217.
 Meredydd ap Ifan, 55.
 Sion Amrhedydd, 56.
 To Abbot of Valle Crucis, &c., 129.
 Y Ddybacco, 46.
 Poet and Prophet, 62.
 Prayer Book, 67, 93, 242, 252.
 Proverbs, 178.
 Signboards, 114.
 Saints' Days, 113.
 Salmon, names for, 73.
 Triads, 55.
 Troops for Irish War, 183, 343,
 347.

WELSH AND THE BORDER PREES :—

- Carmarthen, 17, 27.
 Dolgeley, 347.
 Oswestry, 189.
 Provincial Printers, 125, 308.
 Shrewsbury, 82.
 Trefriw, 339.

WELSHMEN :—

- Anwyl, Col., 49, 61.
 Dafydd ab Gwilym, 45.
 David Llwyd ap Llewelyn, 62.
 David David, Llantwit Major, 83.
 Davy, John, bard, 144.
 Dr. Coch o Ysptyty Ivan, 196.
 Edwards, Edward, 292.
 Evans, Dr., of Llanerchymedd, 16.
 Glynne, Sir Stephen, 15.
 Geronwy Owen, 16.
 Guto'r Glyn, 217.
 Gwynne, Lewis, of Monachty, 106.
 Ievan Llawdden, 56.
 Ingram, Commander, 122.
 James, Evan, of Pontypridd, 114.
 James, Rev. Thomas, 261.
 Jones, Edw., "Bardd y Brenin,"
 61, 74, 103.
 Jones of Bulthey, 2.
 Jones, Rev. E., martyr, 307.

WELSHMEN, continued.

- Jones, Rev. R., Rotherhithe, 194,
 306.
 Lewis, Mary G., 107.
 Lewis Morris, 60, 96, 125.
 Lloyd, Evan, 211.
 Lloyd, Rich., Llanerbrochwell, 139.
 Morris, William, poet, 205.
 Maurice, Sir William, 183, 206, 217,
 221, 260, 298, 310.
 Morgan, John, M.P., 2, 7.
 Morgan of Cilau Aeron, 25.
 Morgan ap Rhys, 28.
 Morgan, T.O., Aberystwyth, 143.
 Owen Gwynedd, 17, 38.
 Powell, Richard, 6.
 Parry, John, Entertainer, 185.
 Price, T., of Llanfyllin, 41.
 Price, Ambrose, of Denbigh, 94.
 Prys, Archdeacon, 196, 230.
 R. Jones the Printer, 299.
 Rhisiart, Sion, 193, 203.
 Robin "Ddu o Von," 56.
 Rogers, Elizabeth, midwife, 14.
 Rogers of Trefilan, 40.
 Shôn Tudyr, 193, 203.
 Thomas, Hugh, of Hendref, 49, 61,
 73.
 Williams of Newtown, 7, 40.
 Williams of Vronwnion, 190.
 Williams, Sir Roger, 90.
 Wilson, the Painter, 5, 7.
 Wynn, Sir W. W., 8, 62.
 Wynn, Sir John, 13.
 Wynne, Ellis, 230.
 Welshpool Corporation, 36.
 " " Explosion, 147, 231.
 " " Parish Clerk, 114.
 " " Mail to Oswestry, 115.
 " " Royal Oak, 126, 206.
 " " Waterspout, 124.
 Wem, Bailiffs, 188, 207, 218.
 " " Cautious Woman, 95.
 " " Concert, 239.
 " " Free School, 222.
 " " Local Rhyme, 198.
 West Felton Church, 302.
 Weston (Hawkstone) Church, 339.
 Whalley, Death of, 109.
 Whitechurch, Duel, 293.
 " " Races, 142.
 " " Volunteers, 219.
 Whittington Castle Relics, 110, 123.
 " " Church, 263.
 " " Deed, 1.
 " " New Rector, 250
 Wife Sold at Llanrwst, 114.
 William Salt Library, 8.
 Willoughby v. Evans, 26.
 Wilson's Three Loggerheads, 5.
 Women turned to stone, 13.
- WORDS AND NAMES :—
 Babins Wood, 218, 234, 263.
 Blow, Barley Child, &c., 245.
 Brawning, 210.
 Broughton, 109.
 By Blow, &c., 238.
 Dirty Fairs, 253.

WORDS AND NAMES, *continued*.

Dyvrduw, 1, 4, 30, 233.
 Erbistock, 109.
 Gregynog, 324.
 Gwersyllt, 109.
 Leasing, 244.
 Llwyn y Rhi, 220, 234.
 Maenattyn, 309, 323.
 Matterless, 306, 324.
 Mochnant, 307.
 Shippris, 307.
 Shuts 315, 331.
 Whillow, 130.
 Wyle Cop, 242.
 Wordsworth's *We are Seven*, 72.

Workhouse Test, 150.
 Wrexham Called Rixham, 183.
 „ Church Monument, 14.
 „ Copper Table, 36.
 „ Races, 9.
 „ Riots, 169, 178, 187.
 Wynn, Dame Sydney, 90.
 Wynn, Sir W. W., and Singer, 8.
 Wynnstay Organ, 309.
 Wynnstay Rainfall, 239.

Y

Y Ddybacco, 46.
 Y Drych Christianogawl, 300, 308.

Yardley, Sir W., 143, 147.
 Yorke's *Royal Tribes*, 218.
 Young Dutch Sam, 73.
 Young Roscius's Cakes, 184, 243.
 Yr Eifl Spectre, 301, 308.
 Ysgelfiog, Epitaph, 22.
Ystori Gwlad Ieuan Fendigaid, 189.
 Ystwyll, Ynyd, Garawys, 193.

Z

Zit wickit woorld, 260.

BYE-GONES FOR 1878.

NOTES, QUERIES, and REPLIES, on subjects interesting to Wales and the Borders, must be addressed to "ASKEW ROBERTS, Croeswylan, Oswestry." Real names and addresses must be given, in confidence, and MSS must be written legibly, on one side of the paper only.

OSWESTRY ADVERTIZER, JANUARY 2, 1878.

NOTES.

OLD DEED RELATING TO PROPERTY IN THE PARISH OF WHITTINGTON.

Nouerint vniuersi per presentes me Robertum Holbache Rectorem Ecclesie parochialis de Whyttynton teneri & firmiter obligari Edwardo ap John treuor* Constabulario de Whyttynton predicto in viginti libris sterlingorum soluendis eidem Edwardo aut suo certo attornato hereditibus vel executoribus suis in festo natalis domini proximo futuro post datum presentium ad quam quidem solutionem bene & fideliter faciendam obligo me heredes & executores meos ac omnia bona mea per presentes Sigillo meo signatum Datum quinto decimo die mensis Julii Anno regni Regis henrici octauai post conquestum anglie vnde cimo.

The condicion of yis obligacion ys such that if ye within named Edward hys heyres & assignes may occupy & pesybly possesse a parcel of land lyving by babyns wdde & be discharged of ye lordes rent of ye sayd parcelle accordyng to a dede of exchange made and seyled by ye within bounden Robart to ye sayd Edward berynge dat ye xliiii day of July in the xi yere of kynge harry the viiith without querel or trowbull made by ye sayd Robart or by his heyrys or by any other in ther names that then thys obligacion to stond & voyd elles hit to stond in full strength myght & virtue.

[L.S.]

W.

* Edward ap John Trevor was a son of John Trevor of Brynkinnall, was an ancestor to the Trevors of that place. He died in 1537. His wife, Ann, dau. of Jeffrey Kyffin, died in 1493.

DYVRDWY.—The Dec.—The Editor of the *Cymmrodor*, j. 199, impugns the derivation of the name of this river in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*, from *Dwvr du*, Blackwater, and asserts ex cathedra that it is from *dwyvr*, water, and *dwy*, divine. As I think that I formerly supplied the first derivation, I still maintain that it is correct, and I will give my reasons for it. I wish now to ask for the authority of *dwy* meaning divine. I believe it to be so asserted without the least foundation. I cannot find *dwy*, divine, in any Dictionary, and I have every one of the Welsh language. The chief are by Salesbury, Dr. Davies, Edw. Llwyd, and Dr. Owen Pughe. They say nothing of *dwy* being divine, though Dr. Owen Pughe gives *Dwvr-dwy*, the Divine water, which is a mere asser-

tion, and thence the *Cymmrodor* obtained his knowledge. There is, however, no authority for this derivation. *Dwyr-dwy* is always called by the present inhabitants of its banks *Dwvrdu*, Black water, and it is very descriptive of it. It was so called in the time of our Welsh hero, who wrote his name *Owen de Glendourdy*. Water in Old Welsh was *dubr*, and *dobr*, and in Old Irish *dobur*. Then by the regular change of *b* into the soft form *bh*, *dobhr* in Welsh, and *dobhar* in Irish; now *bh* was pronounced as *v*, whence *dwyvr* in Welsh, and contractedly *dour* or *dwr*; and *dwr* in Irish. *Dobhra*, *dur*, in Gaelic, and *dour* in Manx. The old form of *du*, black, in Welsh and Irish, was *dub*, and so used by the Ancient Britons, when they occupied Ireland. It is still preserved in its integrity in *Dublin*, *Blackpool*; Modern Welsh, *Dulyn*. The Welsh and the Irish *dub* underwent the usual mutation into *dubh*, and the final, having the sound of *v*, became indistinct, as is seen in *tre* for *trev*, and *plwy* for *plwyv*, and in many other instances, and finally omitted. There is a large river in Ireland, called *Blackwater*. There are two rivers in Scotland, called *Dee*, and two more called *Dye*, and another *Dwr* or *Duff*, from their colour, and this is corroborated from two rivers in Ayrshire called *Dow-uisk*, which means nothing else but *Black-water*, without any reference to divinity. The Roman name of both *Dees* was *Dera*, whence I suspect the Welsh *dwy* was drawn; *wy* being the later equivalent of the Latin *e*, as is evident from Welsh *rhwyd*, *cwyv*, *eglwys*, &c., from *rête*, *cêra*, *ecclesia*. The idea of divinity attached to our *Dee* is of comparatively recent times, such as of Spencer and Drayton. The earliest author quoted is Giraldus Cambrensis, and all that he says is—"The inhabitants of these parts assert that the waters of this river, the *Douerdwy* change their fords every month, and as it inclines more towards England and Wales, they can with certainty prognosticate which nation will be successful or unfortunate during the year."

Rhydygroesau.

R. WILLIAMS.

M.S. HISTORY OF OSWESTRY, 1635.—References are made by Pennant (1778) and Bingley (1804) to this M.S., which is preserved in the British Museum. Price (1815) and Edwards (1819), in their local histories also refer to it—probably not from actual examination, but copying the earlier Topographers. The M.S. was written by "John Davies, Esq., Recorder of Oswestry," for the Earl of Arundel, and to it the following letter is appended, which now, for the first time I fancy, appears in print:—

Right Honble

I have at length accomplished yor Lorps comand in transcribing the Chres heretofore graunted by yor. noble Auncestors unto the Towne of Oswestry, and now extant among their Records. The Coppie whereof together wth such notes & obseruacons of myne owne (concerning the antient &

moderne names of Oswestrie, & of some places and things remarkable in and neare the same, together with a short discource of the Baronie and all the Barons thereof since the Conquest as the scantnesse of Time and helpes could afford, I humbly present heerewith unto yor good Lorps.

Better abilities may afford greater expressions of dutie : my only ambition was to obey yor hoble comand, in performance whereof I have comen short (I confesse) of that exactnes I desired, and might doubt of the approbation of soe grave a Judgment but that yor noble disposicion (I am perswaded) can as well beare with the weakest indeavors as applaud the ablest. And that gracious affabilitie provisth as much welh was soa much observed and soa greatlie admired in yor lor'p and yor most excellent ladie at yor late being in yor poore Oswestrie.

Yours, I call it, being one of yor antient Baronies, and yours wee desire to bee accounted, for soe yor princelie progenitors were pleased to stile the Towne and people thereof.

Other Townes and places maie give greater testimonies of the dutie they owe yor lor'p, yett none (pardon my presumptuous confidence) can more truly honor yow than this : not only for yor personall worth, wch is soe generally admired even in foraine Courtes and Countries, but in a more speciall Relac'on unto yor most noble house and Ancestors of happie memorie, from whom wee had and continue our liberties and privileges : From whom alsoe this whole coast and Countrie derive their meanes, and have their lively hood.

For my self in particular, though I hould the least of Thousandes in these partes, yett I thanckfully acknowledge I hould a portion of my poore meanes from yor noble great grandfather Henery Earle of Arundell, whom my grandfather served. And my father alsoe retayned unto the noble Earle of Suffolke yor Uncle ; soe that the dignities of the one and blood of both these Lordes being mett in yow wth ye improvement of their vertues : I wish I might or were anie wale able to doe yor lor'p beefore all others (next under God and my King) any acceptable service. Wch happinesse sith my obscuritie in the scantnesse of fortunes and abilities cannott hope to attayne unto : Yett in Praisers for yor lor'p : Yor deare ladie and noble progenie I will ever continue.

From my poore house
at Midlton neare
Oswestrie the 15.
of December, 1635.

Your Honors
humble &
unfaindly devoted
JOHN DAVIES.

To the Right Ho'ble Thomas Earle of Arundell & Surrey Earle Marshall of England & bee these humble p'tented.

The M.S. comprises 162 folio pages, much of which (including the early charters) is in Latin. I have not seen it myself, so am unable to say how far our local historians are indebted to it. J.P.J.

West Holm, Oswestry.

[A contributor to *Bye-gones*—whose initials are always welcome to us and to our readers—has kindly promised to overhaul the M.S. and compare it with our local histories.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

R. JONES OF BULTHEY NEAR ALBERBURY. Will any reader of *Bye-gones* give me information as to who Robert Jones of Bulthey was, and to what family he belonged? It is generally thought that he represented an old wealthy Denbighshire family who originally were possessors of much property in that county, and from some cause or other lost the greater part of it. Robert Jones came from the neighbourhood of Sychdin, or Trefonen, and settled in Montgomeryshire, where he bought the Bulthey in the year 1728 ; he died in 1786.

ANCIENT.

SKETCHES AND CHARACTERS.—I have in my possession a little volume purchased by my father at the sale of John Mytton's effects at Halston. The following is a copy of the title page :—"Sketches and Characters of the most Eminent and most Singular Persons now Living. By Several Hands. Vol. 1. Bristol, Printed for John Wheble, at No. 24, Pater-noster Row, London.

M.DCC.LXX." Some of the Sketches are far from complimentary, and some much too vulgar for modern readers. Nearly all are headed by initials only, as for instance the following :—

Of L——d C——e.

His going the last time to India, did him more honour, than all his former expeditions.

Of L——d P——s.

His Lordship not only suffers the disagreeable inquietudes of being often ill, but he thinks it necessary to be always taking Physic when he is so ; and for that reason, travels like a Sea Surgeon, with a medicine chest ; we think to be ill, and to take physic too ; is rather too much.

Another paragraph gives one of the names referred to above in full, and it is amongst a number headed "Of those who have made great figures, in some particular action, or circumstance of their lives."

Lord Clive.

When he went last to India, to the astonishment, and mortification of his enemies.

(Can any of your readers give us some account of this curious work? N.W.S.)

JANUARY 9, 1878.

NOTES.

PULESTON FAMILY NOT WELSH.—*Littera testimonialis in Anglie.*—"To all Truw Christin peple to hoven this writting shall her[after] se come to and in especial to the Chiff Justice and to the Chamlerlein of Northwales we Sir Roger puleston (a) of Maylore knyght John Puleston (b) of Wrexham Esquier John ap Edward ap Madoc of Bromfield Gentyman send gretyng in our lord euerlastyng and in so much as it ys meritorious for euery truw crystine man to testify & bere record of the troth in euery truw & lawfull mater hit is to be showyd vnto vs that a young man David ap Richard ap morys of the Town of Buwuar' & hys brethyrn ar distrayned ffor diuerse Welshe Customes wher ther fader was an Englishe man and a freholder of the sayd Town Surmysyng that they are welshemen Wherfor wee all the fforsayd &c, witnessse & testyfi for truth the sayd David and hys brethren are Englishmen & Comyn thys stok that we bine that ys to sey Sir Roger ap Roger ap John ap Robert ap Sir Roger puleston David ap morys ap William ap John ap Sir Roger Puleston and thys will meny mor of thys Countrie testyfi if it be required In witnessse of the premisses we have pute our sealles yeanen att wrexham &c. [From a transcript made in the reign of Hen. VII, in Hengvrt MS. 213.] W.

JOHN MORGAN, M.P.—I extract the following from an old Scrap Book, which is, unfortunately, very deficient in dates :—

John Morgan, Esq., the member for Monmouthshire, who died lately, was in South Wales pretty much what Sir Watkin Williams Wynn is in the North. The estates of the family produce £30,000 annually. One of his ancestors is celebrated in Wales for having displayed the riches of his country in going to St. James's drawn by a set of horses shod with silver, and Mr. Morgan was one of the two brothers who found so much money in the house of their immediate ancestor, that it was divided, not by tale, but by *shovels-ful*. LANDWOR.

ADERYN-Y-CORPH.—A bird bearing this name which, literally translated into English is, the corpse-bird, is believed by the superstitious among the Welsh to dis-

(a) of Emral, married to his first wife about 1484, died 18 Jan. 36 Hen. VIII, buried at Gresford.

(b) Ancestor to the Pulestons of Havod y wern.

charge an ominous function by prognosticating the near occurrence of death in a sick chamber. And of this intelligence it is represented to be the harbinger by invariably pecking with its bill in the night time at the window of the individual lying on a sick bed, two or three weeks before his decease occurs. Many years ago several persons whose character for truthfulness was unquestionable, declared to the writer that, whilst watching at the bed side of a sick person previous to his decease, they had most distinctly heard the repeated raps of the corpse-bird at his window, though not one of them could tell that he had ever seen the bird itself, or even knew what kind of bird it was. But as the writer himself has since then both seen the corpse-bird and heard its tapplings, he is able to testify that its nocturnal visits are real, but that they have nothing of a foreboding nature connected with them. Before, however, that is done, it may be desirable to identify and describe the supposed ominous bird.

The mention of aderyn-y-corph occurs twice in the Welsh translation of the Bible, namely, in Lev. xi. 17, and Deut. xiv. 16. The name by which the said bird is designated in the English translation in both passages is the little owl. But in some English-Welsh dictionaries aderyn-y-corph is given as the Welsh name for the screech-owl. In the English Bible, however, where screech-owl is named, that is, in Isai. xxxiv. 14, night monster is given in the margin, and in the Welsh Bible yr wyll. Assuming then that by the little owl, screech-owl, yr wyll and aderyn-y-corph one and the same bird be meant, the reason of the latter being reputed to be ominous becomes at once apparent. The screech-owl is so named on account of its habit of hooting or screeching at night, its cry being doleful, dismal and horrifying, whose very voice is regarded by the superstitious to betoken danger, misery and death. It has quite as much aversion to the light of day as the common barn-owl. Whilst the latter perches in the day-time in the ruins of old buildings, fissures of rocks, and hollow places under the projecting brink of stone-quarries, the screech-owl resorts to hollow apertures in the trunk of trees, to such trees as are by reason of their thickly-grown branches impervious to light, as spruce-firs, and others densely entwined with bushy ivy. Being of a ruddy colour it is not easily discovered in such occult haunts.

During a stay made by the writer a few years since at a rural residence in South Wales, he had a favourable opportunity of acquiring an accurate knowledge of the screech-owl, and of hearkening to its despondent and terrifying cry. The residence in question is situated near the edge of a thickly wooded ravine, by which it is bounded north and east. As the writer one night was with a light in his chamber he heard something resembling the repeated pecking of a bird at the window. Having extinguished the light, and very gently drawn aside the blind, he observed on the window sill, by the glimmer of the stars, two owls, in colour ruddy, and in size smaller than the barn owl, which had been attracted thither, no doubt, by the reflection of the light within. The morning following the writer visited the forementioned ravine in search of what he believed were screech-owls, and there discovered, embosomed in impenetrable foliage, just such two birds as he had espied the previous night. And since then he has frequently at dusk, on a still summer evening near the same ravine, heard the hideous simultaneous cries of half-a-dozen screech-owls reverberating from side to side.

The visits and raps of aderyn-y-corph at the window of the lighted chamber in which a sick person is lying, is to be accounted for in a similar way. Attracted by the light burning there, it pecks with its beak at the window, and

its peckings are heard by those who may be watching at the bed-side. If they should be of a superstitious cast they will forthwith identify them with the forebodings of approaching dissolution, speak of them as such, and so perpetuate the credulity in the reputed premonitory intention of the taps of aderyn-y-corph or the screech-owl.

LLALLAWG.

QUERIES.

MR. TOMKINSON OF NANTWICH.—In the *Life of Lord Kenyon*, by his great-grandson, the Hon. G. T. Kenyon, it is said that the subject of the memoir was articulated to "Mr. Tomkinson, an eminent attorney at Nantwich." In what did Mr. Tomkinson's "eminence" consist? Has any life of him appeared? TELL.

THE CASE IS ALTERED QUOTH PLOWDEN. What is the accepted origin of this old saying, which, I have been told took its rise in Shropshire, or at least was derived from one of the Shropshire family of that name. I observe Mr. Salisbury, in his "Border Counties' Worthies" does not mention the old saying. H.B.

HUNTING CLUB AT KERRY.—Hunting Club formerly held at the Herbert Arms Inn, Kerry, Montgomeryshire. There exists at the above-named inn ten or more old mahogany arm chairs, nine of which bear a brass plate with initials and inscriptions as under:—

J. H. Curo et rogo 1765

R. F. Natale Solum

J. C. P. Quis. Ulla Aliena Sibi credat Mala

J. O. Better to hunt in fields for health unought

Then fee the doctor for a nausea brought

S. H. May we see heaven at last when we see no more hounds

W. H. Ex Fumo dare lucem

B. Ll. Afach pob drwn galon

W. M. Insanire Juvat

T. M. E. Equis Canibusque

Perhaps some one of your readers will kindly furnish the translations to the above, and from the date (1765) and initials give us the names of these sporting worthies of 112 years ago?

CHARLES THOMAS.

Newtown.

COUNT DE CRILLON.—I have recently heard a very interesting episode in connection with the residence of the French Prisoners of War at Oswestry in 1812-14. Among them there was one who called himself Count De Crillon, but whom General Veillande (another of the captives here) knew to be an impostor, because he was acquainted with the real Count, who belonged to a good family. The General, however, kept his own counsel, on the so-called Count satisfying him that he had substantial reasons for going under an assumed name. Only Mr. Aubrey was informed of it, and the General told the pretended De Crillon that so long as he did nothing to disgrace France, his secret should be kept. "The Count" was received into the best society in the neighbourhood, and behaved in all respects as an officer and a gentleman; until one day he was "wanted" by the Bow-street officers, who apprehended him, but from whom, it appears, he escaped. It then turned out that he was a complete adventurer, and not a Frenchman at all, although his broken English was admirably assumed. He had committed frauds in America, under the name of "Henry," and was well known to the police of England. I have been told that his career appeared in a newspaper some years ago. Can any of your readers supply it? JARCO.

JANUARY 16, 1878.

NOTES.

FRANKTON CHURCH.—When St. Andrew's Church, Frankton, near Ellesmere, was opened, on Nov. 21, 1835, the Rev. Robert Montgomery ("Satan Montgomery") was curate of Whittington, and he wrote the following hymn to be sung at the opening service:—

Thy Temple Lord! Creation stands
Magnificently vast,
And o'er it Thine adorning hands
The roof of Heaven have cast.

And there all sights and sounds proclaim
The glory of Thy power,
And preach Thine everlasting name
To every conscious hour.

But though Thy temple be all space,
The Heaven of Heavens Thy Throne;
Yet deign with condescending grace
This new-born church to own.

Salvation through the blood of Him
Who conquered death and hell,
Assist us, O ye seraphim!
In strains like yours to tell.

And may Thy living gospel reign
Till sin and darkness flee,
And ransomed earth be pure again
As when it came from Thee.

GES.

QUERIES.

WILMOT OF OSWESTRY.—Although, man and boy, I must have passed the cottage in Penylan Lane now occupied by Mr. Bennion hundreds of times, I never, until one day last summer observed an engraved tablet on it, just under the roof, inscribed as follows:—

M
I : W
1696

Mr. Bennion's house stands on the corner of "Croft Wilmot," and on the other side of the Welshpool road we have "Plas Wilmot," the residence of Mr. Shaw. Who was Wilmot, and does the wall-tablet refer to him?

OSWALD.

SADLER THE AERONAUT.—This early navigator of the atmosphere came to grief off the Welsh Coast, near Holyhead, on Oct. 3, 1812. From what place did he make his ascent? It was stated that on the 12th of Aug. in that year he went up in his balloon from a field, near St. Domingo, about a mile and a half from Liverpool; and such was the excitement, that, as we are told by the *Liverpool Courier* of that time, "At twelve o'clock the town was nearly deserted, and the shops being universally shut, it wore the aspect of Sunday, but with scarcely a person in the streets." Some idea of the tremendous attraction such an exhibition was sixty years ago, may be gathered in the fact of a great town like Liverpool suspending business to witness it.

G.G.

REPLIES.

COUNT DE CRILLON (Jan. 9, 1878).—The prisoner of war known as De Crillon arrived at Oswestry long after the other captives. The Duke De Altemberg had been, I think, previously removed to Bridgnorth. Many prisoners had escaped; among them General Philippon, and it was thought the Duke assisted them with money. It was, I believe, as stated, an old General named Veillande who recognized De Crillon. The German pri-

soners had been released and sent home in 1813. The news of the entrance of the allied armies into Paris reached Oswestry at Easter, 1814. There was great excitement in the town, and on the Monday Count De Crillon and some others mounted the White Cockade; and then it began to be whispered that he was not the real man. The following night he went off, and it was soon found out that he was greatly in debt. He was taken, but suffered to escape in a somewhat mysterious manner. It was only conjectured that Mr. Aubrey knew who he was; it was generally supposed he was a spy on the other prisoners. He was a fine-looking man, and affected great consequence, holding regular levees, when the other prisoners went to pay their respects. He lodged somewhere in Upper Brook-street, near to the Schools. I remember seeing the following written in the Album then kept at Porkington Cottage:—

Sweet Cotage adieu! You recollects to my imagination the happy scenes of my youth. Your presence softens the horrors of my captivity.
EDWARD COUNT DE CRILLON.

Some time afterwards I cut out from a newspaper a paragraph saying he was supposed to be "Henry," a person well-known in America, but I forget for what reason he was notable.

F.

[Any records of the life of the French prisoners in Oswestry, 1812-14, will be acceptable. When Price's *History of Oswestry* was published in 1815, their residence here was too recent to come under the head of 'History,' and when Mr. Cathrall issued his book in 1855, he does not seem to have troubled himself about the subject.—ED.]

DYVRDWY (Jan. 2, 1878).—Canon Williams of Rhydyroesau denies the correctness of my etymology of *Dyfrdwy*. The affix *dwy* he will have to mean 'black,' not 'divine' or 'sacred,' as I had asserted in the *Cymmrodor*; and he desires to credit himself with the discovery. He moreover asserts that I derived my knowledge from Dr. Owen Pughe. He is wrong on all points. In dealing with his assertions, I will reverse their order. I have not to this hour consulted the lexicographer he mentions. Nor is he the discoverer of the theory that *dwy* is another form of *du*. If he will turn to Pennant's *Tour in Wales*: London, 1810, vol. ii., page 215, he will find that Pennant, a century ago, combatted that particular etymon: it was doubtless the received opinion of his day. Turning to the point in question, his etymology is equally erroneous. To refute the editor of the *Cymmrodor* he has recourse to his dictionaries. It is almost a pity he should have disturbed the sleep to which scholars have latterly consigned those relics of a bygone time. A more unreliable set of books (excepting, perhaps, Davies's and Lhwyd's limited compilations) never came from the press. I do not say they are worthless. They have had, and still have, their use. But on any crucial point no dependence can be placed on their authority. Since their appearance in the world the science of comparative philology has sprung into being, and with a vigour that causes those lesser lights to pale before it; though very little light is needed to elucidate the question now in point. *Dwy*, or *dwyf*, is the root of *dwyfol*, 'divine,' 'sacred.' It is congenial with *dewa* of the Sanscrit, *dea* of the Latin, *thea* of the Greek, *dia* of the Irish, *doue* of the Breton, and *dwyw* of the old Welsh. It will be found in composition in *Gwasdwy*, or *Gwasdwy* as the *Record of Carnarvon* has it, and *Meudwy*; in both of which instances its meaning is 'divine.' But as I do not wish to assert philological views *ex cathedra*, I will give a quotation from an author whose linguistic researches are of European reputation. If Canon Williams will turn to Rhys's *Lectures on Welsh Philology*, page 325,

he will read as follows :—" *The Dee, Deva*, probably means 'the goddess' (that is in contradistinction to the masculine 'god'), "and as the river is still called in Welsh *Dyfrdwy* or *Dyfrdwyf*, 'the water of the Divinity, &c.'" So writes Mr. Rhys. But the Canon would twist *dwy* or *dwyf*, into *du* to uphold his theory. This etymology is again confirmed in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* by a writer who signs himself "Cereticus," an accomplished Welsh scholar, whose opinions we may regard as endorsed by the Editor, the Rev. D. Silvan Evans, or they would not have appeared in that journal. (Vol. 5, of the 4th Series, page 86.) "The forms *Dwyf* and *Dwyw* (pl., *dwyfau* and *dwywiau*) are not unfrequently met with, being modifications of *Duw* (God); and in words like *Dwyf* it is no uncommon practice to drop the final *f* in pronunciation. From *Dwyf* comes *dwyfol* (divine), just as *duwio* (divine, godly) is formed from *Duw*. Both *Dyfrdwy* and *Dyfrdwyf* are used in the vernacular for the river Dee." But what does historical testimony say? It is all against him. He would ignore *Giraldus Cambrensis* as of comparatively recent date; and yet Giraldus wrote eight hundred years ago. Drayton and Spenser, too, are regarded as mushrooms though they sang in the sixteenth century. Does he desire a date from the days before the flood? Such a record as is said to be found in the pedigree of one of our princely Welshmen, 'About this time the world was created!' True, no mention is made of the myth in our ancient Welsh poems; but anyone acquainted with them knows that they deal but little with imaginative questions or legends of this kind. What then, I repeat, is the historical evidence we have from these old writers? Giraldus declares that *Deverdoeu*, which in our day would be *Dyfrdwyw* or *Dyfrdwyf*, was gifted with divinity, or the prescience which enabled it to foretell prosperity or adversity to Celts or Saxons. Michael Drayton, in the ninth poem of his *Polyotio*n, makes Merioneth to declare with pride that :—

The pearly Conway's head, as that of *holy* Dee,
Renowned rivers both, their rising have in me.

In the tenth poem he says that :—

Twice under earth her crystal head doth run;
When instantly again Dee's holiness begun.

History or legend had impressed the same idea on Spenser's mind. In his day it was an ancient characteristic of the river. He says :—

And following Dee, which Britons long ygone
Did call *divine*, that doth by Chester tend.

Milton with his vast learning was not unacquainted with its history, when he spoke of the land where

Deva spreads her wizard stream.

And what is the language of our Poet Laureate—of him who sings so lovingly and so well our Arthurian romances? Was he ignorant of Celtic legend and myth when he says:

As the South-west that blowing Bala lake
Fills all the sacred Dee.

I trust even these hurried remarks will satisfy Canon Williams that he has erred in this matter; and that he will not again attempt to destroy an etymology which records one of the most romantic and picturesque "bye-gones" connected with our country and language.

THE EDITOR OF THE "CYMMRODOR."

All Saints Vicarage, Rotherhithe.

A subscription is being made at Wrexham for Mr. Kennedy, the printer who first set up Heber's Hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains." Kennedy worked in the same office (Painter's, afterwards Potter's) for sixty years, and is now unfit for work.

JANUARY 23, 1878.

NOTES.

PUNISHMENT BY BURNING.—It was stated in the *Annual Register* for 1763, a woman, for poisoning her husband, was sentenced at the Chester Spring Assizes, "to be burnt the third day after conviction, but the sentence was respite by the judge till the 23rd [April] on which day she was executed at Bury." R.J.D.

WILSON'S THREE LOGGERHEADS.—On the highway that goes from Mold to Ruthin, about three miles from Mold, by the side of a bridge is an old fashioned roadside public house, called *The Loggerheads* which had at one time a sign of real value nailed to the wall, because it was painted by Wilson, but at present the sign is smeared over, and the heads of the two *loggerheads* on the signboard are almost gone. It appears that the whole had been painted over, possibly for the purpose of reproducing the original sign, but that the work was stopped by the interference of some one who knew the folly of what was about to be done, and then an attempt possibly was made to remove the paint daubed over the original picture, but with very impartial success, as only an indistinct outline of one of the faces can be made out and a portion of the cranium of the other *loggerhead*. The profile of the one that can be faintly seen shows a receding forehead, a somewhat comical, partially turned-up nose, a turned downward mouth. The eyebrow and eye and mouth are those of a conceited noodle, the other profile, that was, has only a part of the skull visible and nothing of the face. They look in opposite directions and are unmistakably at *loggerheads* with each other. Underneath can be traced with some difficulty, for all has been smeared over with dark paint, the words, *we three loggerheads*. Whether there was the word *be* after *loggerheads*, I could not make out; possibly, it read originally thus, *we three loggerheads be*, the traveller being the third *loggerhead*. Another inspection proves that the inscription is *we three loggerheads*. There is no *be*, nor any room for it, on the sign. The three words above given can be seen, but there is not a trace of *be*. The words on the sign are those now given and nothing more. Accuracy in such a thing as a public house sign may be thought of little importance, but I have seen this given as "*we three loggerheads be*" in Guide Books. It is said that Wilson painted the sign to pay for hospitality received at this inn, and the tenant knew not the treasure he had, and so disfigured, or some one disfigured, what would have been an attraction to his house. The spot is a picturesque one. Opposite and not far from the house, are perpendicular rocks, the country around is well wooded, close to is a murmuring river. The house is in a quiet nook, and a place, barring its being a public house, for an artist's abode. It is a great pity that Wilson's sign painting has all but gone, but it would be a greater pity to have it touched up by any hand. It stands there a picture of the painter's chequered life. Wilson is said to have died in the village of Llanverris, which is distant about a mile from the Three *Loggerheads*, in 1782, and was buried in Mold Churchyard. IAGO.

LORD CAPEL'S SWORD.—In the vol. of *Mont. Coll.* for 1875, at p. 161, in a note about the brave old soldier, Sir John Owen of Clenenny (the ancestor of Lord Harlech), Mr. Stanley Leighton says, "There is a rapier at Porkington, inscribed with these words, 'Lord Capel the day before his execution presented this sword to Sir John Owen, by whom, he said, he was convinced that it would be worn with honour.'" The last of the Owens who

possessed the sword was the late Mr. Owen of Penrhos, who entrusted it to the father of the late Mr. R. J. Croxon, of Oswestry, to convey to Porkington, and it used to be kept, with other old armour, in The Cottage. In the same note, by the way, Mr. Leighton says, "the owner has changed the old name of Porkington, which the house has borne for many centuries, to Brogyntyn (sic), the name of an encampment in a neighbouring field." This is scarcely correct. The house has not borne the name of Porkington for many centuries, and Porkington is only a corruption of Brogyntyn. The place originally took its name from Owen Brogyntyn; and in the 12th century there is evidence to show it was called Broginton, one of the first corruptions of the word. Another corruption—at an early date—was Porkinton, and in 1547, we find it called Porgynton. In a deed of the reign of Hen. 8, it is rightly spelt, Brogyntyn. In the time of Lady Eure (17th century), it was called Porkintan. I fancy Mr. Stanley Leighton's "many centuries" will fade away if he consults authorities, and he will find Porkington comparatively recent.

FITZ ALAN.

STONING KING GEORGE III.—Bread Riots all over the country in 1795 culminated in an attack on the King as he went to open Parliament on Oct. 29 of that year. One man, it has been said, was taken up before the mayor of Oswestry, suspected of being a ringleader in the attack, and our district was as unruly as the rest of the kingdom. But the attack on the king resulted in a loud ebullition of loyalty everywhere, and not more so than in Wales and the Borders. A few records of the doings of the time I have culled, and herewith present them:—

November 6, 1795.—Public meeting at Shrewsbury for the purpose of voting an address of congratulation to the king on his recent escape from the mob as he went to open parliament. The motion for the address was made by John Corbet, Esq., seconded by the Rev. Francis Leighton, who in the course of his speech said, "Monarchy (limited, gentle, and beneficent as it is found to be in this kingdom), Monarchy was the real object of the indignation of those deluded men, or rather of their employers; and by striking at the person of the Monarch, they thought they laid the ax to the root."

November 14.—County Address of Congratulation voted to the King by the Shropshire gentry; moved by Robert Corbett, of Longnor, Esq., and seconded by Rowland Hunt, of Boreatton, Esq., Henry Bevan, Esq., sheriff, presided.

November 26.—At a Common Hall, or Public Meeting of the High Steward, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the Borough of Montgomery, 'Jones, Town Clerk,' it was resolved that the Common Seal of the Borough should be affixed to an address of congratulation to the King, and sent for presentation to Whitchsed Keene, Esq., the member for the Borough.

November 30.—County Meeting at Bala for the purpose of voting an address of congratulation to the King. Robert Lloyd, Esq., high sheriff, in the chair. An address, moved by Edward Williams Vaughan Salesbury, Esq., of Rüg, and seconded by John Jones, Esq., of Rhagatt, was agreed upon. Sir R. W. Vaughan, Member for the County, and the high sheriff, to present the address.

December 14.—County Meeting at Welshpool for voting address of congratulation to the King. Lawton Parry, Esq., sheriff, in the chair. Address moved by Devereux Mytton, and seconded by John Herbert, Esqs. To be presented by Francis Lloyd, Esq., Member for the County.

December 23.—Thomas Bonsall, Esq., high sheriff of Cardiganshire, has received the honour of knighthood, on the occasion of presenting the congratulatory address to his Majesty, on his late happy escape from the daring attempts of his enemies.

JARCO.

QUERIES.

NASH POINT.—Nash Point, in Bristol Channel, is known in Welsh as Y Rhas, and the valley and the village are called respectively Curu y Rhas, and Pentre

y Rhas. What may the etymology be? There is a small valley in the parish of Llandysill, in Cardiganshire, known as Pant-y-Rhasis.

J. C. UNNONE.

In *Notes and Queries*, July 26, 1873.

EDWARD PHILLIPS.—This gentleman, an nephew of the immortal John Milton, is said to have been born in Shropshire. I should feel much obliged if any of your readers could give me some information on this point. He wrote a curious work entitled, "The New World of Words, or English Dictionary," and in 1696 one John Kersey published an enlarged edition of it.

GONDOLIER.

MR. RICHARD POWELL.—The death is recorded, in the *Annual Register*, for 1795, of "one of the greatest geniuses Wales produced" during the century. For all this Mr. Williams has left him out of his catalogue of *Eminent Welshmen*. The notice of Mr. Powell's death is as follows:—

Oct. 19. On the dreary hills betwixt Festiniog and Ysppyty, in Denbighshire, on his return on foot from the former place where he had been upon business, Mr. Richard Powell, master of Ysppyty school. His body was found on the following Wednesday afternoon, a considerable distance from the road, and it is supposed that night coming on, he being near-sighted, unfortunately missed his way, and through fatigue had lain down, when death overtook him. His death will be severely felt by his aged mother, whom he had for many years passed maintained out of the small pittance acquired by honest industry. We may say of him, without the least tincture of flattery, that he was one of the greatest geniuses Wales has produced in the present century. As a Welsh grammarian he was equal to most; and as a poetical writer his "Four Seasons" (for which he gained the Gwynddigion's annual medal in 1793—although contested for by eleven able candidates) will be a lasting monument of his poetic skill.

Has this "lasting monument" survived the 87 years that have passed since it was penned.

ANON.

REPLIES.

THE CASE IS ALTERED QUOTH PLOWDEN (Jan. 9, 1878).—The saying I have always understood is derived from Edmund Plowden, the eminent lawyer mentioned by Mr. Salisbury in his list published Aug. 16, 1877. According to Hulbert's medley, called a History of the County, Plowden "was treasurer for the society of the Middle Temple in 1572, when their magnificent hall was built, and was a great advancer of it himself." The popular belief of the origin of the saying, Mr. Hulbert says, is this:—"That being trepanned to hear Mass, he found that the pretender to officiate was no priest, but a mere layman, whereupon he flew back and would not hear it, saying, 'The case is altered, No Priest no Mass.'"

SCROBBES BYRIG.

Hartshorne says that this phrase originated in the unexpected decisions of Judge Plowden. He was a Shropshire man, and was made a sergeant in the reign of Mary. Being a Catholic he obtained no preferment under Elizabeth.

NEMO.

The origin of this old saying was given in *Notes and Queries*, Nov. 21, 1857. I hav'n't the vol. at hand or would copy the reply.

TYRO.

Dr. Brewer says Plowden was a priest who was inveigled to attend mass performed by a layman, and then impeached for so doing. Before the tribunal he asked the accuser if he was the man who officiated, and on the man replying that he was, said, "That alters the case, for it is an axiom with the church, 'No priest, no mass.'" (See "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable.")

SPOT.

JANUARY 30, 1878.

NOTES.

"THANK YOU FOR ME."—This expression is still occasionally used in the Oswestry district, where parties confer favours on those a little lower in the social scale than themselves. For instance, a lady will entertain to a meal a "poor but honest peasant"—who has perhaps once been her servant—and who, when she rises from the hospitable board, drops a curtsy, and says, "Thank you for me." N.W.S.

WILSON'S GRAVE.—This stands near the entrance to a small incongruous vestry lately built to Mold Church. The tomb is what is called an altar-table tomb. The inscription is cut into the top or table of the tomb, and is as follows:—"The Remains of Richd. Wilson, Esqr., Member of the Royal Academy of Artists. Interred May 15th, 1782, aged 69." This tomb was erected by subscription. It is like many other tombs in the churchyard. After the above inscription come two englynion. These were the result for a competitive meeting or Eisteddfod held in Mold in 1851. There were twenty-six competitors for the prize for the best englynion to the memory of Wilson; Caledfryn was the adjudicator, and he awarded the palm to the author of the lines that are now on the tomb, and which are as follows:—

O foren i yrfa eirian,—rhoi eleu
Ei athryllth allan;
Darluniai—dilyna'n lân,
I'r linell ar ol anian

Yn llaw ei oes bu'n llesol,—dyg iddi
Deg addysg gelfyddol;
A'i gywir waith geir o'i ol,
A syna'r oes bresenol.

When at Mold I was told that some time ago a few gentlemen from the Royal Academy visited the grave, and one of them threw himself across the tomb, uttering the words "Oh for the spirit of Wilson." There is some talk about placing a stained window to Wilson's memory in the church opposite his resting place. IAGO.

OLD OSWESTRIANS.—*Edward Wynne Evans.*

Mr. Evans was a mercer in the town last century, and that he was one of Oswestry's leading men is proved by the fact that his name appears in the list of Mayors—at a period when such an office did not go-a-begging, as in these degenerate days; but was an honour eagerly coveted. He filled the office in 1782-3. He was the first treasurer appointed by the Oswestry Incorporation, when the parishes were amalgamated in 1791. This appointment was no doubt due to the fact that Mr. Evans was a banker as well as a mercer. In 1792, when there was a scare all through the country lest seditious meetings should be held for the spread of Republican principles, Oswestry, in public meeting assembled, declared its loyalty, and opened a subscription list to back its opinion. The amounts subscribed were to be "paid into Messrs. E. W. Evans and Co's bank." Also in 1794, when subscriptions were solicited for increasing the Militia, money raised at Oswestry was to be paid to "Messrs. Edward Wynne Evans and Co." This would imply that Mr. Evans had a partner, in the bank, at least, and the minutes of the Oswestry Incorporation state that, in 1792, Mr. Evans being appointed Deputy-Mayor of Oswestry, by Mr. Mytton of Halston—who was our chief-magistrate for that year—he "being liable to serve as a director," in virtue of his office as acting mayor, "Mr. Edward Birch Marriott was appointed treasurer." Mr. Marriott was, I presume, Mr. Evans's partner, for in 1799 when "Mr. Croxon, draper," was appointed treasurer, he is stated, in

the same minutes, to have succeeded "Messrs. Evans and Marriott" in the office. Was Marriott partner in shop and bank? In an advertisement of 1801, in connection with the trade of mercer and draper, we have "Marriott and Arrowsmith." Many of our middle-aged Oswestry readers will remember Mr. Marriott, and his sister, who survived him. JARCO.

QUERIES.

WILLIAM CURETON.—I should be glad to know if this eminent Salopian scholar published any other works than the following:—*Tanchumi Hierosolymitani*, London, 1843; *Pillar of the Creed of the Sunnites*, London, 1843; *Book of Religious and Philosophical Sects*, London, 1846; *Catalogus Codicum Manuscriptorum Arabicorum*, London, 1846; *Vindiciae Ignatianae*, London, 1846; *The Festal Letters of St. Athanasius*, London, 1848; and *Three Sermons Preached at the Chapel Royal*, 1848. There are few men to be compared with him in his particular line of authorship unless it be Samuel Lee, another Salopian worthy mentioned by Mr. Salisbury. SALOPIENSIS.

NAMES OF OSWESTRY STREETS.—I have lately had occasion to examine a large number of old deeds relating to property in Beatrice-street, Church-street, and Brook-street. I find that from 1550 to 1770 Beatrice-street was called "Bettridge Street." Can any of your readers give the origin of this name, and state why it was altered to "Beatrice" Street? Church-street was called up to 1670 "Street yr Velyn." Brook-street was called up to 1720 "Street yr Abbot." Information as to the reason of these changes would be interesting. J.P.J.

A NEWTOWN PISCATOR.—In the *Cambrian Quarterly Magazine* for July, 1830, Vol. 2, p. 386, the following death is recorded—"Mr. Henry Williams, the Isaac Walton of Newtown, Montgomeryshire." Was Williams in any way remarkable? The fact of his death being recorded in the *Cam. Quar.* does not prove it, because from the number of nobodies whose deaths are announced one would be led to suppose that the obituary was a matter of pounds, shillings, and pence. TAFFY.

REPLIES.

JOHN MORGAN, M.P., (Jan. 9, 1878).—The paragraph supplied from an old scrap book forms the concluding part of the obituary notice in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1792, p. 673, of John Morgan, who was one of the M.P.'s for Monmouthshire in 1790-92. As the preceding portion of the notice may prove of interest to archaeologists who have not the above-named volume at hand, it is hereunto appended:—

Death June 27, 1792. At his seat at Tredegar, co. Monmouth, John Morgan, Esq., M.P. for that county. In advanced life he married a lady [Louise, daughter of Ch. Pym Burt, Esq., of London], considerably younger than himself, with the hope of an heir, in which he was more than once disappointed, and she has, since his death, experienced her usual ill-fortune, so that the heirs of this opulent and antient house are the sons of Sir Charles Gould, Judge-advocate, and of the late Mr. Van, of Lanwerne, married to the sisters [Jane and Catherine] of Mr. Morgan.—By Mr. M's death, Col. Gould, son of Sir C, comes to an estate of nearly 30,000*l.* per annum, and a parliamentary influence as follows: Monmouthshire, represented by the late Mr. Morgan; county of Brecon, by Sir Charles Gould; town of Brecon, by Col. Gould.—Mr. Morgan was in the South of Wales, &c.

In page 863 of the same volume the following correction is added:—

Ibid. [i.e. p. 673] Mr. Morgan's sister, Lady Gould, is living of course her son is not heir to Mr. M.

Lady Gould died in 1797. Her demise is recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for that year, p. 357, thus:—

Suddenly, at her house on Egham-hill, Lady Gould, relict of the late Hon. Mr. Justice G. On the 11th of April, her remains were interred in the family-vault at Stapleford Abbots, Essex.

Mr. Morgan is said to have *bequeathed* Tredegar and the greater part of his property to his sister, Lady Gould, and her eldest son, Sir Charles Morgan, who subsequently was raised to the peerage, and became the late Lord Tredegar, and accordingly came into possession of the estate.

The above statement that Lady Gould was a relict is incorrect, for Sir Charles, who by royal licence assumed the name of Morgan, survived her nine years. The following record of his decease is transcribed from the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1806, p. 1180.

Dec. 7. At his seat at Tredegar, co. Monmouth, in his 82d year, beloved and respected by all who knew him, the Right Hon. Sir Charles Morgan, Bart. (so created Oct. 30, 1792), LL.D., many years military judge advocate-general, and representative in six Parliaments for the County of Brecon. No man was more attached to his Sovereign, or more zealous for the good of his country; in private life most honourable, sincere in his friendship, charitable and humane. He is succeeded in title and estate by his son, Colonel Morgan, of Ruperra, M.P. for the county of Monmouth.

According to the pedigree of the Morgan family, John Morgan, M.P., had two brothers, namely Thomas, who was born in 1727, and died unmarried in 1771, and Charles, born in 1736, and died in 1787. But which of the two with his brother John, found so much money in the house of his immediate ancestor as to have been under the necessity of dividing it with him by *shovels-ful* is best known to those who are in possession of the traditions of the family.

LLALLAWG.

ADERYN-Y-CORPH (Jan. 9, 1878).—The note of your correspondent LLALLAWG upon the Aderyn-y-corph is interesting, and his remarks as to the origin of the local superstition in the distortion of natural facts are doubtless correct. As to the Biblical references, however, I think it is impossible to assume "that by the little owl, screech owl, yr wyll, and aderyn-y-corph one and the same bird is meant;" and this for the following reasons:—The word translated into the Welsh "aderyn-y-corph" and into the English "little owl" in Lev. xi., 17, and Deut. xiv., 16, occurs also in Psalm cii., 7 (6 in the English and Welsh versions), where it is rendered by the Welsh "dyluan," and by the English "owl." But the Hebrew word in all these passages is "kos," a name doubtless given to a bird, but having as its first meaning "a hollow receptacle" or "cup;" whence it seems probable that this name was, after the Hebrew manner, descriptive not of the owl, but of the pelican, a bird having a "cup" or "pouch" in its flexible lower mandible. In the English Bible "pelican" is the usual translation, whether correct or not I cannot say, of the Hebrew 'gaath;' as in Lev. xi., 18, Deut. xiv., 17, and Psalm cii., 6, wherein the English agrees with the Septuagint version. As to Isaiah xxxiv. 14, where the Welsh version is "wyll," the English "screech owl" it is by no means certain that a bird is meant, most probably not so. The Hebrew word 'lylyith' means simply the "nightly one" or "night monster," from 'layil,' 'night'; and it is supposed by some that Isaiah expressed by this word rather a popular superstition as to the existence of a monster supposed to haunt ruins than any real animal. This agrees with the Septuagint translation of that passage, where the word is 'onokentauros,' a monster with a quasi human shape. There are beliefs in the existence of similar evil beings existent amongst the Arabs and other Eastern races at this time. The sum of the Biblical evidence which

LLALLAWG adduces is therefore as follows:—That in Lev. xi. 17, and Deut. xiv. 16, to which I add Ps. cii. 6, a bird is certainly signified by the same Hebrew word, but whether the 'owl' or another kind of bird is a matter for discussion. In Isaiah xxxiv. 14 it is more than doubtful if the word 'lylyith' signify a bird at all. I think, therefore, we cannot with any certainty identify the screech owl, or the Aderyn-y-corph of Welsh legend and of the Welsh Bible with the bird called by the Hebrews 'kos' in the passages cited. E.P.

CURRENT NOTES.

An interesting celebration was held last month in the parish of St. Paul's, near Penzance—namely, the centenary of the extinction of the old Cornish language. It was last spoken by a venerable woman, who died at Mousehole, just 100 years ago, and was buried in St. Paul's parish. The proceedings were attended by a large number of fishermen and farmers, and after a "Cornish tea" Mr. W. C. Borlase, a descendant of Dr. Borlase, the Cornish antiquary, presided, and explained the early history of the county. Of the Cornish language, he said, no literary relics prior to the thirteenth century had been yet found, although Welsh literature was very rich from an early date. The Rev. W. S. Lach Szymra, vicar of Newlyn, followed with an explanation of the position of the Cornish in the Aryan family of languages. He said the European languages were like a chain, of which Cornish was one link, and that link was of great interest to philologists. The Cornish language belonged to the Celtic division, and was nearest to the Breton and Welsh, and like the Irish, the Manx, and the Gaelic. He gave a summary of the existing relics of Cornish literature. The Vicar of St. Just had to translate the Bishop of Exeter's sermon to the people of St. Buryan. The language was not quite dead, for it still affected the Cornish dialect, the accent of which was foreign, and also many expressions. A number of local words were given (still in use), with their Welsh and Breton congeners, and their connection was shown with other Aryan languages.

The William Salt Library at Stafford contains a Religious Census of the Province of Canterbury for the year 1676, made "in pursuance of a letter from the Rt. Rev. Father in God, Henry, Lord Bishop of London, to give an account of the number of Inhabitants, Papists, and other Dissenters." The totals for the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield are as follows:—155,720 Conformists, 5,042 Nonconformists, 1,949 Papists. The whole province was reported to contain 2,123,362 Conformists, 93,154 Nonconformists, 11,870 Papists.

The *North Wales Chronicle* tells the following story, for the truth of which it vouches—Some seventy years ago, as the Sir Watkin Wynn of those days was riding in the neighbourhood of Wrexham, he heard a man singing in a cooper's workshop, with whose voice he was much struck. It was a person of the name of Meredith, who possessed a splendid bass voice. Sir Watkin had him instructed, and he became celebrated as a singer of sacred music. He was engaged at the ancient concerts, oratorios, &c., but he resided chiefly at Liverpool. Having heard that a parish clerk of a village in the Vale of Clwyd, of the name of Griffiths, could sing down to double C, Meredith was determined to visit him. He accordingly started, and walked about forty miles. When he arrived in the village he inquired for Griffiths. A very little fellow, digging potatoes in a garden, was pointed out to him. "What," thought Meredith, "that shrimp of a thing to sing lower than I can? Impossible!" Meredith, it is said, was a fine, tall man, upwards of six feet high. He walked around the garden, eyeing poor Griffiths disdainfully; at length he said, upon low G, "Good day to you, sir." Griffiths, resting on his spade, replied on double low C (five notes low-r), "Good day to you, sir." Upon which Meredith marched off with double C ringing in his ear, all the way to Liverpool.

FEBRUARY 6, 1878.

OWAIN BROGYNTYN.—In reference to the note of FITZALAN Jan. 23, under the heading "Lord Capel's Sword" a correspondent suggests that it would be more correct to say that Owain Brogyntyn took his name from that of the previously existing one of the township, than that the castle took its name from him. There is no doubt the place was called Broginton in the 12th century, and has undergone several variations in spelling since. But according to Lady Ewre's will it would seem that at one time the house went under a new name altogether, for her ladyship speaks of it as "Constables Hall, in the township of Porkinton."

NOTES.

THE SHELTON OAK.—It was stated in the *Salopian Magazine* for 1815, that there was "sufficient room for at least half a dozen to take a snug dinner" inside Shelton Oak. I have been told that eight persons have been known to dance a quadrille in it; and it will interest Shropshire readers to know that there is at least one flourishing tree existing, raised from an acorn of this oak. The tree in question is at Pentreheylin, and is on the right side just as you pass the entrance gate. It was planted about 1832 by the late Mrs. Croxon, of Oswestry.

JARCO.

THE DUKE D'ALEMBERG.—The name of this French prisoner was mentioned Jan. 16. When he was at Oswestry he got up concerts of instrumental music among his fellow-captives, and sometimes they performed in the ball-room at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel, and there was free admittance for any one who liked to hear them.

F.

WREXHAM RACES.—At the top of the List of Entries for the Wrexham Meeting of Oct. 1833, is given the names of the winners of the "Wrexham Gold Cup," as follows:—

Yrs.	Owners.	Winners	Sbs.	Strs.	Riders.
1815	Mr. F. R. Price's.	Queen of Diamonds	10	5.	Spencer.
1816	Sir W. W. Wynn's.	Prince de Cobourg	10	2.	R. Barnard.
1817	Earl Grosvenor's.	Passamaquoddy	10	4.	W. Dunn.
1818	(Did not fill).				
1819	Lord Stanford's.	..Olympia	12	2.	T. Shepherd.
1820	Sir W. Wynne's.	..Taragon	10	2.	Spencer.
1821	Sir W. W. Wynn's.	..Thyris	13	3.	Minter.
1822	Mr. Rogers'	..Sir Edward	10	4.	Spring.
1823	(Did not fill).				
1824	Mr. Mytton's.	..Whittington	10	2.	Spring.
1825	(No Races).				
1826	Sir W. Wynne's.	..Signorina	10	5.	Spring.
1827	Sir W. Wynne's.	..Signorina	16	7.	Darling.
1828	Mr. Mytton's.	..Euphrates	14	4.	Whitehouse.
1829	Mr. Ormsby Gore's.	..Hesperus	12	2.	Darling.
1830	Sir W. Wynne's.	..Penrhos	13	7.	M. Jones.
1831	Sir W. Wynne's.	..Penrhos	12	4.	Spring.
1832	Mr. Mostyn's.	..Her Highness	14	2.	Templeman.
1833	Mr. Mostyn's.	..Her Highness	13	3.	Templeman.

The two that competed with "Her Highness" on the last named date were Russell, named by Mr. H. Kenrick, and ridden by Lear, and Pickpocket, belonging to Sir R. W. Bulkeley, ridden by Darling. Why were there no races in 1825?

W.M.

OSWESTRY TOWN SEAL.—It is stated in Price's *History of Oswestry*, p. 27, that "the oak branch on the seal of King Oswald, as mentioned in the MS. of John Davies, Esq., Recorder, 1635, was a mere ornament, as on those of the bailiffs of Shrewsbury, and several royal seals of the time of Edw. I." The writer of Price's History mentions this incidentally in his description of New Gate that spanned the junction of Church and Cross streets up to the last quarter of last century.

Over the gateway there was a "horse with an oak branch in its mouth," which "was the crest of the Fitzalans, and is borne by the present earl-marshal of England, as the dexter supporter of his shield." The writer adds, "There is a very ancient carving of the horse and oak bough in the old house at Trenewydd, near Whittington." It is certainly not right to quote the Recorder of 1635 as the authority for saying that the oak branch on Oswestry seal was a mere ornament, for in an abstract of his MS. kindly sent me by "H.W.L." I find the author—writing of the name "Maserfield," as applied to the town, remarking:—

This Saxon name was derived (as app'th) from the *oude* Brittithe name thereof *Messen*, which in the *oude* Brittithe & accordinglie in our modern Welsh signifieth an accorne, mees [mes] in the plurall number *Acornes*, *meserie glandium copia* and *Mesbren* an oake or the acornetree whence the Saxon *Meserfelth* (see written by Beda) or *Maserfield* by the other historians & Antiquaries (1): Both being the same in sense & neere in sound signifieth *glandium 'campus* & seemably the *oude* Brittaines called this towne *Tre'r fesen* *glandium urbeim*. & accordingly the Welsh poet

Llosgoth flagloth i phen
Trwy oer fisit tre'r fesen.

Hereupon the Normans afterwards implying the reason & rendering the meaning of this antient British name did call it *Glaunvill* or *Glandeville* *Glandium Villa*: & the Welsh Bards sometimes *Tre-Koderi* (i.e., coed deri, oak-wood). The towne of great oakes as being situate in a soil then full of great oakes growing thereupon, & compassed therewith for a spacious distance & large circuit on every side. and therefore (as I suppose) the oaken bough was antiently the armes of the towne of Oswestry; for upon their *oude* com'on seale of brasse (called the towne seale) I finde depicted a kinge (in all likelihood Kinge Oswald) sittinge on a chaire, holding a sword in his hand, and in his left hand an oaken bough. So that when the noble owner of that antient crest the white horse came first to be owner and also Baron of Oswestry, whether to evidence his love, or to add honor to the Towne, or taking it as an honor to be Lord of the Towne, or either, he put the oaken bough into his white horses mouth, of which white horse & of that right noble peer whose crest it was, one made this disticon

Hic alacer sonipes niveo candore superbus
Est gentilici nobile ste'ma sui.

There is a further note, in the abstract before me, in which it is stated that the author of the MS. differs from the common account given of the origin of this crest, viz., a race between twins to a standing oak, taken for his crest by the winner.

JARCO.

(1) *Marginal Note.* "Maesbeury, a hamlet in the P'ish of Oswestry, is now called Llys feisir or llys feisidd [feisydd]."

QUERIES.

"THE ENGLISHMAN'S RIGHT."—This is the title of a tract reprinted in 1785, by T. Wood, of Shrewsbury, and stated to be the seventh edition of a "Dialogue between a Barrister-at-law and a jurymen," written by "Sir John Hawles, Knight, Solicitor General to the late King William." This edition is dedicated "to the Rev. William Davies Shipley, D.D., Dean of St. Asaph," doubtless because of the celebrated case, tried at Shrewsbury a year or two earlier, in which he was the defendant. In the preface we are told that an English jury "has a right to give a general verdict on a question of Law, arising out of, or necessarily included in, the question of Fact before them in an indictment or information, for a supposed Libel, cannot be more fully evinced than it was in the case of the King v. Owen, in the year 1752." Who was Owen? And can any of your readers give us an outline of the Trial of the Dean?

TELL.

[We hope some day to give an outline of the two trials of the Dean of St. Asaph.—ED.]

WELSH CRUSADERS.—In a note on page 441 of Robson's translation of Michaud's *History of the Crusades*, vol. 1, we have the following:—

There is extant in Latin an account of the journey of Archbishop Baldwin through the country of Wales, entitled *Itinerarium Cambrie*, drawn up by Barry, who accompanied the preacher of the crusade. This journey is curious, from the singular prodigies and miracles which are related in it. If this relation may be credited, Archbishop Baldwin neglected no means to induce the people to take the cross; he enrolled one day, says Barry, a great number of men who came to him in a state of nudity, their clothes being secreted by their wives and friends, who wished to prevent their going.

Has any translation of the Welsh Itinerary of Giraldus, in an accessible form, ever been published, and is it to be procured?

TYRO.

BARDIC SEAT OF GENIUS.—The writer of an interesting paper in the December No. of the *Cornhill Magazine*, entitled "The Celt of Wales and the Celt of Ireland," in which the Welsh and Irish are compared, and contrasted greatly in favour of the former, styles Cader Idris the "bardic seat of genius." What does the author mean by this?

GOGLEDD.

REPLIES.

MR. TOMKINSON OF NANTWICH (Jan. 9, 1878).—I fancy the term "eminent" as applied to Mr. Tomkinson, was only a figure of speech. Last century, and early in this, solicitors in anything like a large way of business were generally so called. An instance I have before me in "Robert Hall's Life of the Rev. T. N. Toller," [a son of whom was once an Independent minister in this town] where the author says of the subject of his memoir, "His father was an attorney of eminence in the populous village of South Petherton, and two of his sons were educated for that profession." Indeed the term was not confined to solicitors, as may readily be ascertained by reference to old magazines and newspapers. We are told, for instance, of the death, in 1797, of "Mr. Griffith, an eminent mercer and ironmonger in Wem;" in 1799 of the death of "Mr. George Stoakes, late an eminent timber merchant, in Oswestry;" also under date of 1811 I have seen a reference to a "Mr. Jones, an eminent brandy-merchant of St. Mary's Hill." And in *Bye-gones* very recently in the autobiography of Thomas Olivers, his uncle is described as "an eminent farmer in the parish of Forden."

G.

Wem, Salop.
[The terms "eminent," "ingenious," and "respectable," were very favourite ones with the journalists of last century, and doubtless meant nothing more than compliment.—ED.]

NASH POINT (Jan. 23, 1878).—In *Traces of History in the Names of Places*, the name *Nash* is derived from *Næsse*, a promontory, and the following examples are given:—*Nash Scaur* (Rads.), the cliff promontory; *Nash* (Pemb.); and *Nash* (Mon.) Another name, that of *Nash* in the union of Bridgend, might be added to the list. Mr. Joyce, in his *Irish Names of Places* (ed. 1871, p. 429), has the following remarks:—"The word *ros* signifies first a promontory, or peninsula, secondly a wood; and it has other significations which need not be noticed here. . . . A well-known example is *Ross Castle*, on the lower lake of Killarney, so called from the little *ros* or point on which it was built." *Muck ros*, the peninsula of pigs; *Rosstehy*, birchy point; *Rossinver*, the peninsula of the *inver* or river mouth: *Rossory*, eastern peninsula; *Rost ruis*, the landing place of the peninsula, and other examples are given. Is *Rhas* the Welsh form of the Irish word, and is its presence on our coasts another "Vestige of the Gael" in Gwalia?

H.

FEBRUARY 13, 1878.

NOTES.

VALENTINES.—Walking one market day up the road leading from Oswestry to Trefonnen, I passed a couple of women; one going homewards with a pig, and the other coming to market with a basket. As I passed them I heard the following request and reply:—

"If yo see Ann Davies say as ime gone 'ome"
"I wool"

The last words remind me of an old valentine story I heard when a boy, and which was vouched for as happening on the borders. A young farmer sent a "serious" valentine to the daughter of a neighbour, with a few lines added in which he put an important question. The lady, who could not write, was too proud or too shy to call in assistance, in replying; so she got a box and into it placed a sheep's eye and a bit of wool! [This was casting sheep's eyes with a vengeance.] The answer was complete and, let us hope, the pair were united in happy bonds of lasting bliss. Half a century ago "serious" valentines were more common than in this more educated age, and often meant business. I have heard my father say that not long after he set up in business in Oswestry, a young farmer of the neighbourhood bought from him a valentine—with the traditional brace of hearts, on a skewer before a roasting fire, fanned by Cupid—and asked him if he would be so kind as to add a few lines expressive of his devotion to a damsel, to whom he also addressed it; of course under a bond of secrecy. On the following Wednesday into his shop came a young woman; who produced the valentine, and with many blushes, asked my father to write for her a few suitable lines on another valentine, in reply. He did so; again being under the bond of secrecy. A few months elapsed, when the couple called to thank my father for what he had done. They had got married; and, added my father, "they were customers at my shop for years afterwards."

JARCO.

TRIAL OF CHARLES I.—You have already had several references to Col. Jones, one of the King's judges; but so far no contributor has noted the fact that several of the witnesses were connected with Shropshire and Wales. I have before me Nalson's *Trial of Charles the First*, and find the following parties giving evidence:—William Brayne, of Wixhall, in the county of Salop, gent.; Edward Roberts, of Bishop's-castle, in the county of Salop, ironmonger; Samuel Morgan, of Wellington, in the county of Salop, feltmaker; John Thomas, of Llangollen, in the county of Denbigh, husbandman; Diogenes Edwards, of Carston, in the county of Salop, butcher; Gyles Gryce, of Wellington, in Shropshire, gent.; also a couple from Monmouthshire, &c. The evidence of Roberts related to the King's doings at Shrewsbury; and another witness, a Yorkshireman, testified that he heard the King, at the head of his army on Hounslow Heath, "incourage several regiments of Welshmen (then being in the field) which had run away at Edge-hill, saying to them, That he did hope they would regain their honour at Brentford, which they had lost at Edge-hill."

D.

QUERIES.

SMALL NOTES.—In looking over some old newspapers the other day, I came across an account of a public meeting convened by the High Sheriff of Denbighshire, on the 16th of June, 1828, at which petitions to both Houses of Parliament against the "Bill for Suppressing the Circulation of Small Notes" were agreed to.

No arguments advanced at the meeting are given in the report; and I am at a loss to know, first, why it was desired by Parliament to suppress Pound and Guinea Notes; and, second, in what way they were so useful to county gentlemen that they should act in so vigorous a manner in trying to retain them? TYRO.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S HEAD.—In divers parts of the Principality we have remarkable rocks that are supposed to assume a likeness to celebrated individuals; but of the following I never heard until a few days ago, in the record of a tour performed five-and-thirty years ago, in Merionethshire. The writer is descending the route from Dolgelly to Talyllyn:—

The sterile heights stoop over the valley until they almost meet; the road runs along a steep which hangs above a torrent-stream brawling and winding below. All kinds of fanciful shapes appear on the eminences, some of which have been named according to the passing thought of the observer. Queen Victoria's Head is supposed to rise above the rest, and near her is a rock Penydelyn, from its resemblance to a harp. A little further on is Llam-y-lladron, or the Robbers' Leap; for from hence it is said to have been in early days the custom to cast offenders (*See Miss Costello's Tour.*)

Perhaps some of your local readers will be able to point out the precise spot at which these rocks may be seen? A correspondent of *Bye-gones* (May 23, 1877) fixes the locality of Llam-y-lleidr at Harlech, although he believes there are other places to which the same name and tradition attaches. G.G.

OSWESTRY THEATRE.—I have before me a couple of playbills of performances in Oswestry Theatre on Wednesday evening, Oct. 26, 1825, and Wednesday evening, Nov. 1, 1826, respectively. The performers at the earlier date include Messrs. Maitland, Gordon, Smith, Wood, Hallam, Stanton, jun., Fairbairn, Mathews, Fawcett, Kirk, and Scotcher. The actresses were Miss Stanton, Mrs. Hallam, Miss H. Stanton, Mrs. Fairbairn, Mrs. Wood, and Mrs. Rowlands. For how long a period did "Stanton's Company" perform in Oswestry, and were there any actors of note in it? And whilst I am putting queries on the subject may I ask if any of your readers know what became of the large stone carvings, representing Tragedy and Comedy, that adorned the front of the Theatre in Willow-street, before it was converted into a malt-kiln? When was the Theatre opened?

FITZ-OSWALD.

REPLIES.

"THANK YOU FOR ME" (Jan. 30, 1878).—This is one of the many border expressions borrowed from the Welsh, only the latter do not use it as the Borderers do, by saying "Thank you *for me*," but "Thank you *for me*." For instance a couple of pedestrians will call at a farm house to ask, perhaps, for a draught of milk; and when they have drunk it, one will say, "Diolch i chwi drosta' i;" or "Diolch yn fawr iawn i chwi drosta' i;" leaving his comrade to convey like thanks on his own behalf.

BONNM.

WILLIAM CURETON (Jan. 30, 1878).—A brief memoir of this distinguished Salopian scholar appeared in *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, Dec. 20, 1876. It is there stated that

His principal publications are—1. "Tanchumi Hierosolymitani Commentarius in Lamentationes." 2. "Book of Religious and Philosophical Sects, by Mohammed Al-Sharastani." 3. "A Brief Exposition of the Principal Tenets of the Sunnites, by Al-Nasafi." 4. "The Ancient Syriac Version of the Epistles of

St. Ignatius." 5. "Catalogus Codicum Manuscriptorum Arabicorum qui in Museo Britannico asservantur." 6. "Vindiciae Ignatiane, or the Genuine Writings of St. Ignatius, as exhibited in the Ancient Syriac Version, vindicated from the charge of Heresy." 7. "Corpus Ignatianum; a Complete Collection of the Ignatian Epistles, genuine, interpolated, and spurious." 8. "The Festal Letters of Athanasius, discovered in an Ancient Syriac Version." 9. "The Ecclesiastical History of John, Bishop of Ephesus." 10. "Fragments of the Iliad of Homer, from a Syriac Palimpsest." 11. "Spicilegium Syriacum, containing remains of Bardesan, Meliton, Ambrose, and Mara Bar Serapion." 12. "Remains of a very Ancient Recension of the Four Gospels, in Syriac." 13. "Three Sermons preached at the Chapel Royal, St. James's." 14. "Sermon preached before the Corporation of Trinity House," &c.

From this it may be inferred that he was the author of other works not mentioned. It will be seen that SALOPIENSIS refers to 7 works out of the 14 given above.

W.H.

NAMES OF OSWESTRY STREETS (Jan. 30, 1878).—"J.P.J." states that he finds, in deeds dating back 300 years, or so, "Beatrice Street" called "Bettridge Street," and that it has been so spelt 200 years later. Like the name of our town itself, the street has been spelt in various ways. Leland tells us of Betericke gate, and Harrison (1564) calls the street Beterich, and its gate "the Baderickes or Baderish gate." Of the origin of the name we are told in Price's *History of Oswestry*, pp. 27-8, that "it was probably erected by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in the beginning of the reign of Hen. IV., who named it in compliment to his wife, Beatrice, natural daughter to the King of Portugal." In Edwards's *History*, we have a similar paragraph, only with the name spelt "Beatrix." They neither of them quote their authorities, but they evidently copy from Pennant. Where Pennant got his information from I cannot say: it would appear that he had seen *Davies's MS.* in the British Museum; as he quotes it elsewhere; and as the subject in question happens to be in the abstract of the *MS.*, I referred to (Feb. 6) as having been copied by a contributor to *Bye-gones*, I am able to present to its readers what our Recorder of 1635 said as to the origin of the name:—

Some say that the castle-gate called Beatrice gate was built in Henry the 2nd's time by Beartrix (sic) or Betradr a greate Lady daughter of Simon Earl of Mountford and Eureux [Evreux] in Normandy wief of Hugh Kivillog [qu. Cyveiliog] the 5th Earl Palatine of Chester. This Lady travelling that way fell there in Labour, & was delivered of a son named Randolph Earl of Chester and Lincoln who was surnamed Blandeville because hee was borne in Powis in a Towne called Albun Monasterium [one of the Saxon names of our town]. But others say that gate was built by another greate Lady named Beatrice daughter of King John of Portingall (sic) & married to Thomas Earl of Arundell & Surrey 1405 in the p'sence of Henry the 4th Kinge of Englande (p. 6. b).

In quite modern times, as a contributor once stated, Beatrice Street was commonly called "Stryt y Petris," by our Welsh neighbours over Cym-y-bwch; and letters were sometimes addressed to "Partridge Street."

JARCO.

I have seen it stated, on the authority of an old deed that Brook Street, a century and a half ago, was called Oswald Street, and Street yr Aber. The latter would simply be Welsh for Brook Street, "aber" being used to designate "brook," very generally on the borders. The name Street yr Velyn, may perhaps only have included the portion from the Cross to the old gate (or rather "New Gate") outside of which, and where Mr. Blaikie's house now stands, there was formerly a corn mill, which would account for the name. The street above has certainly been Church Street, or Stryt y Llan, for centuries. The dates given by "J.P.J." go back as far

as 1550. Somewhere about that time, according to Hollinghead, there was an extensive fire in the town, whereby two long streets were destroyed, and later at the end of the same century there was another devastating fire, when seven score houses within the walls, and three score without, were burned. Again, there was a fire at the Welshpool end of the town in 1644. From one or other of these fires we get the name "Pentrepoeth." Would not these destructions in some way account for the variation in the names of the streets? To this day no two Oswestrians can rightly say, off hand, what "Leg St." and "Cross St." include! FITZALAN.

FEBRUARY 20, 1878.

NOTES.

ST. DAVID'S DAY.—The following ballad, said to be an ancient one, appeared in the *Dublin Literary Gazette* for Feb. 13, 1830. The person who communicated it said it "was found amongst the papers of an eminent literary character lately deceased."

Trevor Issa.

I.M.

THAE STORIE OF SEYNCTE DAVODD.

Whatte tym al merie Engelande,
Net merie thanne alace,
Thae Pictis revers overspradde,
Thilke storie came toe pas.

Thaire lyved yn Menevia, (1)
Ane verie hallie wighte;
Sike everich one dyd prayse him hie—
Syncte Davodd was he hichte.

Thae odeur of hys seynctitie
Spradde al thae countrie throu;
Bothe farre an wyde, ontyl it came
Thae heythen leyder toe.

Nowe whanne thae Pictis monarche herde
Al peple prayse thys manne,
Sathan's envie yer hys herte,
E'en hym toe rayse beganne.

Thanne hee yn yre sed toe hymselfe,
Thys Seyncte shal theie prayse moe
Than mee, who al thaire armies colde
Soe ethie (2) overthrowe.

Straite thanne he swar ane michtie othe,
Ane michtie othe swar hee,
Thatte hee wolde of thys godelie manne
Revengit rountheles (3) bee.

Twaie wantoune wemyng frae hys host,
Maiste hedeifulie cheis hee,
An sed toe them, "wythe mickel gouldie
"Ye shal rewarded bee:
"Gif faythfulie whatte I desyre
"Yee wil performe for mee.

"Theie saie thate yn Menevia
"Ane godelie Seyncte dos dwel;
"Eke of hys wonder (4) myracels
"Thynges selcouthe (5) doe theie tel.

"Goe temptit wythe wantoune werds and wyles
"Thilk hallie manne toe syn:"—
Soe dyd hee spak—for Sathan was
Hys wyckede herte wythin.

Nowe marke howe Gode hys provydens
Thilke Seyncte hys rescue wroughte;
An howe thae wycked heythen, hee
Yn hys owen snair was caughte.

Theie went, an maist alluryng artes
Toe temptit hym wythe, theie tryed;
Bot al thaire connyng artes and wyles
Hys seynctitie defyed

Nowe, whanne thaire wantoune werds an wyles
Theie founde them al yn vayne;
Toe yeve (6) thei selfes moe lyberte,
Straite madenesse theie dyd faygne.

Thanne fyrst Seyncte Davodd rayssed hys voyce,
Fyrst turned hys eyne on them;
An theie, dismayed, hunge downe thaire hedes,
Adrede toe loke at hym.

"Ceas foloish wemyng, for yn vayne
"Yee trie toe temptit my herte;
"For fraie thae rode of rectytude
"I nevere wyl departe.

"Bot for youre fyting punyshmente,
"Soe doe thae Hevens deycree,
"Yee shal bee trewlie made indede,
"Whych yee nowe faygne toe bee.

"Toe hym thatte sente yee shal retorne,
"Unable to relait,
"Or thatte yee fayled, or whatte thae cause
"Of youre maiste piteous state."

Thae hopelesse wemyng loked as gif
Ane levyn-bolte (7) frae Heven
Descendede fleyning, an thae grownd,
Afore thaire fete had ryven.

Them fonde thae Pictis dysconsolate,
Eke straying toe, an fro;
Theie brocht them toe thaire kyngs, thatte hee
Of thaire socces mote knowe.

Bot vayne dyd hee question them—
Soe soone hys brethe hee spared;
Theire wanderinge eyne, an senseles werds,
Theire morneful fate declared.

Oh! sorelie was thaire kyngs dysmaied
An smyten yn hys herte
Thatte evere ayen this hallie manne
Wythe Sathan hee toke part.

Bie everich worthie dede hee strawe
Hys cryme for toe atone;
At laste hee socht Menevia,
Barefootede, an alone.

Seyncte Davodd, hee, wythe mickel praier,
Besocht hym toe forgyve,
Toe teche howe ane Chrysteen gode
Hee mote thenceforth lyve.

Seyncte Davodd, hym, wythe joie baptized,
Hee toke hym for hys sonne;
Who soome ane worthie seynct became;
An soe mie tale ys donne.

A WARNING TO SABBATH-BREAKERS.—

Mr. Halliwell, in 1859, had thirty copies printed of an Ancient Survey of Pen Maen Mawr, supposed to be the MS. of Sir John Wynn of Gwydir, to which Bishop Gibson had access when he edited "Camden." In it mention is made of a carnedd on Moelfre, a smooth round hill, somewhere between Llanfairfechan and the village bearing the dreadful name of Dwygyfylchi, and the following passage occurs:—

Neare unto this place there is a fyne delicate hill called Moelvre, rownd by nature and mownted very highe; and in the toppe very playne and pleasant: upon this hill there is a cyrcle marked, whereupon stood three stones aboutes a yard and a quarter above grownd, the one redd as blood, the other white, and the thyrd a litle bluer then the white stone, standyng in a triangle wiese. What shoulde bee the reason of placynge such three stones in such a place upon soe highe and soe pleasant a mounte, and to place there stoness of such colloures. I cannott expresse otherwise

(1) St. Asaph. (2) Easy. (3) Terribly. (4) Wondrous.
(5) Strange. (6) Give. (7) Thunder-bolt.

* So in the magazine: it should of course be St. David's.—Is the ballad ancient, or a modern antique?—Ed.

than wee have ytt by tradicion. The tradicion is this, that God Almighty hath wrought in this place a miracle for increasynge of our fayth. And that was thus. Three women, aboutes such tyme as Christianity began to creepe in amongst us, upon a Sabaoth day in the mornyng went to the tope of this hill to wynowe there corne, and havynge spread there wynewynge sheete upon the grownd and begunn there worke, some of there neighbours came unto them and did reprehend them for violatyng and breakynge the Lorde's commaundement by workynge upon the Sabaoth day. These faythless women, regardynge there profytt more than the obsearvynge of God's commaundement, made slight of there neighbours admonition, and healde on in there worke; whereupon ytt pleased God instantly to transfourme them into three pillars of stones, and to frame these stones of the same colour as the womens clothes were, one read, thother white, and the thyrd bluishe, and to transfourme there winowynge sheete and corne into earth, and soe to leave them there in example unto others. This is a tradicion wee have and beleved by the ould people in that neighbourhood, and houseover, wher ytt was soe or noe, the tradicion is wholesome, and will deter others from workynge upon the Sabaoth day. These stones, beyng worth the seynge as they were there placed, have beene digged uppe by some idle headed youtthes within this sixe yeeres, and were rowled downe the hill, and doe now lie att the foote of the hill.

Sir John Wynn wrote his MS. in the reign of Charles I., so probably there is as little trace of these 'transfourmed' women in the present age as there is of Lot's wife.

N.W.S.

QUERIES.

THE YOUNG PRETENDER.—Did Charles Edward, Prince of Wales, ever pay a visit to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn? It has been said that he did so at Llangedwin, previous to the battle of Culloden. The story goes that a gentleman came there whom Sir Watkin immediately led into the middle of a large field and there they had their conference. I was once told a circumstance by a lady which in some measure confirms the story. Her mother, who was born in 1770, on one occasion went to see the house at Llangedwin. An old housekeeper showed her over it, and on pointing to a portrait of Charles Edward, said, "I have seen that gentleman." JARCO.

BORDER SAYINGS.—"Bonny sweep all" is a saying I once heard applied by a mother to her hopeful offspring who gave unmistakable evidence of great appetite at dinner. The following may often be heard in conversation in Oswestry market, "Well, neighbour, you were 'not in luck's way to-day.'" "No, I am most commonly 'in the leasow when luck is in the lane,'" "You'll have 'better luck next time.'" "Ay, ay," retorts the unlucky one, "'I'll live in Hope if I die in Kegurlee" (i.e., Caergwrle). GYPT.

OSWESTRY TOLL CASE.—In Price's *History of Oswestry*, 1815, we are told, on page 24, that it was in contemplation to get rid of the tolls that were demanded at the sites of the old gates, and that "a case" was prepared for a "Committee" appointed to manage the affair. The ground of opposition to the Tolls was that "no consideration was given by the Lord of the Manor for the tolls demanded by him." Was this "case" ever tried? Or did the Lord of the Manor yield his ancient rights without fighting? Who were the Committee, and by whom and how appointed? TELL.

REPLIES.

SMALL NOTES (Feb. 13, 1878).—I may mention that Denbighshire was not alone in its agitation, as a county, against the bill for the suppression of small notes,

introduced into Parliament in 1828. A county meeting was held at Mold, where—

it was stated by Mr. Les, of Redbrook, that in a late conversation with Lord Clive, his lordship expressed his opinion, that the extinction of small notes would have an effect of reducing the income of the landowner 25 per cent.

If this was a general belief no wonder that county meetings should be convened by the High Sheriffs. One speaker at the Flintshire meeting—Mr. Jones of Pwll-Melyn—is reported to have said, that—

he was fully persuaded that Mr. Peel had adopted false data in estimating the amount of the small note circulation at £2,500,000 only. Mr. Peel's calculation was founded upon the number of stamps issued within the last four years, whereas the fact was, that a greater number of one-pound notes of an antecedent date were in circulation than those issued within that period. He should be inclined to think that, instead of £2,500,000 it would not be less than £6,000,000. In the district with which he was immediately connected, not less than £10,000 was required for weekly wages; and if the local banks were precluded from issuing their small notes, he was convinced the neighbourhood would experience the most distressing calamity.

The Act had been passed in 1826, in consequence of several disastrous failures, but was not to come into operation until April, 1829; hence the agitation of 1828.

H.B.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Journal of Botany*, in recording the death of the late Vicar of Oswestry, says Mr. Salwey published several papers on the Lichens of Shropshire and the Channel Islands in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* and the *Edinburgh Botanical Society's Transactions*, and also issued a valuable *exsiccata*, *Lichenes Britannica*.

At the meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, on Jan. 24, Professor M.K. Hughes exhibited an antique intaglio, in sard, set in a silver ring, and turned out by rabbits in a British camp near Bodfari, on the east of the Vale of Clwyd. The gem represented a seated figure holding a palm. Behind was a thurible-shaped object of uncertain use. The work was rude, and was believed by Professor Hughes to be native imitation of Roman art.

PHONETIC SPELLING.—The *Tablet*, in an article on this subject, says :—As an example of the great difficulty of appreciating what is meant by a phonetic writing of words we may instance the suggestion of Mr. H. Richard, M.P., in regard to a Welshman's difficulty in learning English. As a member of the deputation which recently waited on the Duke of Richmond, to propose a Government enquiry about spelling—a Royal Commission on the subject of orthography—Mr. Richard stated that "there was a great desire upon the part of the Welsh people to acquire the English language, but that they were greatly debarred from it by the arbitrary spelling." We should think that there must be a mutual diffidence on the part of the English people in attempting to learn the art of Welsh spelling. It is true that the main point on which Mr. Richard was insisting was the sameness of rule in pronouncing Welsh words; so that it was only necessary to know the value of certain letters, in a certain order, and most of the words in the language might be pronounced. Yet though it is possible that, to a Welshman, the "phonetic" beauty of his spelling may have merits which an average Englishman cannot value, it is certain that the Welsh use of both consonants and vowels is found by most Englishmen to be difficult. To take the word "ale," which in English is not difficult—though we admit that it might be spelt in a variety of ways, such as ail, ayle, or

even eighle, for these spellings are all found in similar sounds—the Welsh word is a puzzle for English spellers, and requires almost a small education :—

To pronounce the word they make use of might trouble you,
Being spelt with a C, two R's, and a W.

And so with heaps of words, which to the Welsh may be very simple, there is a terrible spelling difficulty for the English. As the same distinguished rhymers, Mr. Barham, observed of a Welsh mountain :—

For the A and the E, the I, O, and the U,
Have really but little or nothing to do ;
And the duty, of course, falls the heavier by far,
On the L, and the H, and the N, and the R.

FEBRUARY 27, 1878.

GIRALDUS.—In reply to TYRO, who asked (Feb. 6) if any translation of the Itinerary of Giraldus had appeared in an accessible form, "D.R.T." refers him to one included in "Bohn's Antiquarian Library," price Five Shillings.

NOTES.

BRIDGE AT MACHYNLLETH.—*Will* 1533 (Prerog. Ct: Canterbury, folio 4, "Hogen"), "Geoffrey Hughes citizen & merchant taylor of London and one of the kinges gonners of his tower of London I give and bequethe towards the making of a bridge at the towne of Mathanleth in Wales vj^{li}. xiijs. viij^d." (10 marks). J. C. C. S.

OLD MONUMENT IN WREXHAM CHURCH. At the end of the South aisle of Wrexham church, is a very remarkable monument, rich in heraldic emblazonment, but containing no inscription beyond the letters R.L.L., in iron, at the top of it. This monument commemorates Sir Richard Lloyd, who was Governor of Holt Castle in the reign of Charles I., and Chief Justice of North Wales, in the following reign. It has recently been thoroughly cleaned and repaired, and the following inscription placed on a flag of free-stone, between the monument and the floor of the church. W.

VNDERNEATH LIES INTERRED.

SIR RICHARD LLOYD.

OF ESCLVSE IN THIS PARISH. AND DVLASSEY IN THE COVNTY OF CARNARVON. KNIGHT.

GOVERNOR OF HOLT CASTLE DVURING THE GREAT.

REBELLION AND AFTERWARDS CHIEF IVSTICE

OF NORTH WALES. A LOYAL AND DEVOTED

SVBIECT AND SERVANT OF THE ROYAL MARTYR.

KING CHARLES I.

WHOM HE RECEIVED AT BRYNYFFYNNON IN THIS TOWN IN THE YEAR 1642.

HE MARRIED VPON SEPT. 4. 1632. MARGARET

DAUGHTER OF RALPH SNEYD OF BRADWALL AND.

KEELE IN THE COVNTY OF STAFFORD. ESQ. DIED

MAY 5. AND WAS BVRIED ON THE 12. 1676.

THE MONVMENT ABOVE ERECTED TO HIS MEMORY.

HAS BEEN CLEANED AND REPAIRED IN THE YEAR.

1877. AT THE COST OF W. W. E. WYNNE ESQ.

OF PENIARTH AND

THOMAS LONGVEVILLE ESQ. TWO OF HIS DESCENDANTS AND CO-REPRESENTATIVES.

ST. DAVID'S DAY (Feb. 20, 1878).—In the "Chronicle" of the *Annual Register* for 1765, under date Mar. 1, we have the following record :—

Being St. David's Day, Herbert Thomas, Esq., treasurer, and the rest of the stewards of the Society of Ancient Britons, elected for the support of the Welsh Charity School on Clerkenwell-green, Middlesex, went in procession to St. James's, where they were admitted to see the Prince of Wales, and kiss his hand; and then presented his royal highness with the following address :—

May it please your royal highness; The members of the Society, who have now the honour to approach the presence of your royal highness, do it with hearts full of zeal for the prosperity of your august parents, the person of your royal highness, and every branch of the royal family.

United as they are in their sentiments of loyalty and charity, they hope for the protection and implore the patronage of your royal highness, for an institution that educates, cloaths, and supports many poor destitute natives of that principality, from which your royal highness derives your most distinguished title.

Your royal parents remember no period of their lives too early for doing good; and when a few years shall call forth your virtues into action, your royal highness may perhaps with satisfaction reflect upon your faithful Ancient Britons thus laying themselves at your feet.

To which address his royal highness made the following answer with the greatest propriety, attended with suitable action :—

Gentlemen; I thank you for this mark of your duty to the King, and wish prosperity to this charity.

His royal highness was then most graciously pleased to present the treasurer with an hundred guineas for the use of the charity.

One would have thought there was not much room for "suitable action" in the delivery of a speech under twenty words in length, unless in this instance the action was with the "feet" at which these ancient Britons laid themselves! But as the Prince whose protection they implored, and at whose feet they, figuratively, prostrated themselves, was not quite three years old, we can hardly expect him to give the hearty kick such a lot of Ancient British Snobs deserved. N.W.S.

AN EXPERT IN HER PROFESSION.—In Feb. 1808, there died at Rhosllanerchrugog a woman of 89 years, who was deemed worthy a place amongst the "remarkable persons" of the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Her name was Elizabeth Rogers, and this is what is said of her :—

She had 17 children, 63 grand-children, and 36 great-grand-children, in all 121. She was left a widow with a numerous train of infants, without any means of support but her own industry, and the assistance of her three eldest children, who all laboured hard at the loom, to maintain themselves and the younger branches. For the last thirty years she practiced midwifery with great success and credit; in the space of that time she assisted at the birth of 4,630 children.

The looms referred to were, I presume, at the Rhos, and doubtless were common in cottages there, as at other places, before the rise of great factories and steam machinery. G.G.

QUERIES.

COL. KIRK TOKEN.—A friend of mine has a copper coin about which he is desirous of obtaining some information. The coin in question is about the size of a halfpenny, date obliterated (if it had one), bears on one side a man's head with large beard and moustache, on the other side a Welsh harp, with the name "Colonel Kirk, Wales." Will any of your readers kindly say what was the occasion it was struck in memory of, or what it refers to? EAST HOYLE.

RELIQUARY FOUND AT OAKHURST.—The following (accompanied by illustrations) appeared in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, Third Series, No. 28, in October, 1861. 'An interesting little reliquary or pendent ornament was found during the last year at Oakhurst near Oswestry. It measures nearly an inch and a half in diameter, and half an inch in thickness, including the gem with the collet, in which it was set. This ornament is of silver gilt, set with a large amethyst *en cabochon*,

around which is engraved a radiated bordure with roses and cinquefoils at intervals; on the under side is engraved a figure of St. John the Evangelist, holding a chalice, his usual symbol. At the upper margin traces of solder appear, where doubtless was originally affixed a small loop or ring, by which it might be suspended to a shrine, to one of the limbs of a crucifix, or to some other sacred object, possibly as a votive gift: it may have contained some small relic. Its date is about 1450-60; it was probably made in this country. In the catalogue of benefactors to St. Alban's Abbey (*Cotton MS.* in Brit. Mus. Nero 2, vii.) numerous offerings occur termed *monilia*, and, as they are frequently represented in the margin, we see what was their form. It is recorded of King Richard II: "optulit feretro, monile aureum," and the King appears holding just such an ornament as that found at Oakhurst: that is, a flat, round, jeweled object, like a small box. Matthew Paris, who was a monk of St. Albans, gave, among other things, "Monile aureum, continens partem ligni dominici quod deosculatur die Parasceves et dependet a cruce aureâ per catenam argenteam in parte dextrâ." The *monile* found at Oakhurst probably hung on the cross, parte sinistrâ, for it may not improbably be supposed that it may have been appended over the figure of St. John, which usually appeared at one side of the crucifix. Are any of your readers aware if any similar reliquaries have been discovered in the neighbourhood of Oswestry? Is it possible that on the site of Oakhurst there once flourished a monastery?

DNLWOR.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY THEATRE (Feb. 13, 1878).—It was announced in the local papers of Feb., 1822, that an "Amateur Play" (i.e. a performance by amateurs) would come off at the "elegant little Theatre" in Willow-street, on the 15th of that month, when *Speed the Plough*, and *The Review, or the Ways of Windsor*, would be performed, with the following cast:—

SPEED THE PLOUGH.

Sir Phillip Blandford.....	Mr. C. Jones.
Sir Abel Handy	Mr. Dovaston.
Bob Handy	Mr. D. Thorndike.
Henry	Mr. R. Faunce, jun.
Morrington	Mr. R. Salisbury.
Evergreen	Mr. Williams.
Farmer Ashfield	Mr. T. Yates.
Gerald	Mr. Onions.
Peter	Mr. Wynn.
Young Handy's Servant.....	Master Faunce.
Miss Blandford	Miss Thornhill.
Lady Handy	Mrs. Walsh.
Dame Ashfield	Mr. Johnson.
Susan Ashfield	Miss Thornhill.

THE REVIEW.

Deputy Ball	Mr. Williams.
Captain Beaugard	Mr. C. Jones.
John Lump	Mr. T. Yates.
Looney McTwalter	Mr. Dovaston.
Caleb Quotem	Mr. D. Thorndike.
Dubbs	Mr. R. Faunce, jun.
Grace Gaylove	Miss E. Thornhill.
Lucy	Miss Thornhill.
Martha	Mrs. Walsh.

We possessed a local paper in our town then, called the *Oswestry Herald*, which, so "full" was it of the event, that it not only published a couple of columns of laudation of its own, one week, but a couple of columns more the next week, of laudation, "written for the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, but Mr. Watton declined inserting it." In this last notice we are told that

Sir Abel Handy was hit off by Mr. Dovaston with so copious a vein of humour that the ideas of the author floated in all the richness, lightness, and loquacity of an original conception. . . . Stript of his embroidery, and (barely) clothed in the rags of Looney McTwalter, he was equally comic and equally original.

Mr. Dovaston's "vein of humour" was put into play off the stage as well as on; but the little "bye-play" I am about to chronicle was, of course, not reported in the newspapers. After the performance, Mr. Newcombe, then organist of the Old Church, said to Mr. Dovaston, "You performed the Irish Blackguard much better than you did the English Gentleman!" "Ah," replied Mr. Dovaston, "You were a much better judge of the one than the other!" Notwithstanding Mr. Dovaston's witty reply, he was well aware that Mr. Newcombe himself was a gentleman. I shall have more to say respecting these performances, and the Oswestry Theatre, another week, meanwhile will some one inform readers of *Bye-gones* who the amateurs were, whose names I have given. Some, of course, we know, but not all.

JARCO.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Athenæum*, in a notice of "Notes on the Churches of Kent," by the late late Sir Stephen Glynne, says that Sir Stephen, who, in his early youth fell a victim to the charms of ecclesiology, examined 5,530 churches. "His taste was good, and consequently his criticisms were worthy of respect." Sir Stephen, we presume, examined many of the churches of this district, before the ruthless hand of restoration had been put upon them. If so it, is to be hoped his notes will be published.

In a lecture delivered at Wellington last week Mr. C. Callaway, F.G.S., after pointing out that in the glacial period an unbroken sea of ice would have been seen from the summit of the Wrekin, and that boulders found in the neighbourhood had in all probability been brought from Scotland by the ice, and after giving a careful geological description of the hill, concluded by saying—"The Wrekin is bounded by faults; it has therefore been formed by the upheaval of a wedge of stratified and consolidated volcanic rocks. As the rocks which rest upon its flanks are of at least Upper Cambrian age, and are utterly unconformable to the Wrekin volcanic beds, it is clear that in the Wrekin and Caer Caradoc chain we have the remains of Pre-Cambrian volcanoes, probably the oldest volcanoes yet discovered by geologists."

A blue book on the rating of woods and sporting rights, which has recently been issued, gives the following particulars:—Oswestry: Woods, 3,297 acres; gross estimated rental, £2,463; ratable value, £2,338. Rights of sporting, 72,483 acres; gross estimated rental, £2,376; ratable value, £2,274. Ellesmere: Woods, 2,720 acres; gross estimated rental, £959; ratable value, £934. Rights of sporting, 68,818 acres; gross estimated rental, £1,887; ratable value, £1,887. Wem: Woods, 1,274 acres; gross estimated rental, £997; ratable value, £968. Rights of sporting, 45,417 acres; gross estimated rental, £2,390; ratable value, £2,390. Whitchurch: Woods, 894 acres; gross estimated rental, £511; ratable value, £490. Rights of sporting, 26,376 acres; gross estimated rental, £1,053; ratable value, £1,028. The totals for Shropshire are:—Woods, estimated extent, 23,403 acres; gross estimated rental, £14,853; ratable value, £14,377. Rights of sporting, estimated extent, 669,671 acres; gross estimated rental, £28,056; ratable value, £27,597.

A GOLD KEY.—Whilst some men were digging a grave at Coychurch last Friday, a most curiously-wrought key was thrown up. The Rev. Charles Llewelyn was present when the key, which is between four and five inches in length, was found. It does not appear to have been used as keys are ordinarily used, and is supposed to have been a symbol.

BLACK BARLEY: THE FEAST OF THE BIRDS.—About thirty years ago, being at the Gogerddan Arms, Aberystwyth, Mr. Powell Davis, the landlord, who also farmed some land in the vicinity, informed me that he had grown some extraordinary black barley, said to be famous for its malting property, that had a history attached to it which I now forget, but unfortunately his turkeys were so fond of this grain that they flew over a high hedge to get at it, and ate it as soon as it ripened upon the stalk, so that he could not keep any of it to cut. I felt interested at his account, and he kindly gave me the address of the person who had supplied him, by whom it was publicly advertised. I wrote to the advertiser to send a small quantity to a friend of mine, an agriculturist in the southern division of Northumberland, who got sufficient to sow a rood of land. The barley grew up and promised an abundant crop; but so soon as it ripened it attracted all the birds of the district, who appeared to have some mode of communicating the news, as they came in flocks and took the grain in the ear as it ripened. A boy was employed with a gun to fire powder charges, but in despite of the gun the birds prevailed, so that in the end the product was less than the quantity of grain sown. The circumstance of this grain collecting so many birds excited considerable curiosity, and several farmers and others came from a distance to see the crop and the birds which it collected. If I recollect rightly, my friend would not again try the experiment the following year, as the birds interfered with his other grain crops, as well as with those of his neighbours (who did not like it), when they could not obtain the coveted barley. About the same period some new wheat was introduced, said to have been obtained from the case of an Egyptian mummy, and went by the name of "mummy wheat," which produced several heads from one stalk. I have seen it figured in some popular periodical. From some cause neither the black barley nor the "mummy wheat" was cultivated. The reason why the former could not profitably be grown has been explained.—"J. B. P., Barbourne, Worcester," in *Notes and Queries*.

MARCH 6, 1878.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Contributions are in hand from Llallawg, Iago, Landwor, Gladwyn, Ap Gwynedd, J.P.E., T. Hughes, I.M., Cestrian, and others, all of which will appear as soon as space permits.

NOTES.

DOLWYDDELEN.—In the southern part of Carnarvonshire, is a small, and were it not for its historical associations, a very unimportant village, which forages has borne the above name. It was, or is believed to have been, the birthplace of Llewelyn the Great, and in after ages was known in connection with the great house of Gwydir. We find it repeatedly mentioned in the famous "History of the Gwedir family," and spelt as above. In the "Ministers Accounts" for Wales, early and late, it is uniformly spelt DOLWYDDELEN; in the "Record of Carnarvon" it is referred to in letters having the same force. Moreover, I am told by the second, if not the very first Welsh scholar now in existence, that the name of the village is derived from its patron Saint, *Saint Gwyddelan*. For myself I can say that I have a certain number of acres marching with those of Lady Willoughby d'Eresby, at Penannen, though in an adjoining parish; I am nearly an octogenarian, and never heard the place called till now by any other name than DOLWYDDELEN. But I see in the *Cambrian News*, frequently, intelligence from DOLYDDELEN. Why alter thus the so long established orthography of places, which would be hardly recognised under their new names. The tenants of old Sir John Wynn, of

Gwydir, had they been ordered to pay their rents at DOLYDDELEN, would have had some enquiries to make in discovering the place. If I may say so, it is these *pedantries* which unhappily throw so much ridicule upon our Welsh antiquaries and literati. W.

[We entirely agree with our correspondent, and had we the ear of the Editor of the *Cambrian News*, the name should be spelt correctly.—ED.]

AUTHORSHIP OF A POETICAL EPITAPH.

In Gwalchmai's prize essay on *Enwogion Ynys Fôn*, which was published last year, it is stated in a foot-note on p. 46, that the stanza of four lines, inscribed in diminutive letters on the grave-stone placed over the remains of Dr. Evans, in the churchyard of Llanerchymedd, is by Goronwy Owain. The stone is said to have sunk into the ground as to be now almost out of sight. Not finding the epitaphial lines in the poetical works of Goronwy Ddu, as edited by the Rev. R. Jones, of Rotherhithe, I wrote to the venerable Gwalchmai to enquire if the evidence in favour of Goronwy being their author was reliable and conclusive, to which I received from him the following reply:—

"My reason for stating that the epitaph in question was composed by Goronwy Owain, was the assertion that that effect of the late two Richards, of Llanerchymedd, namely, the Rev. John Richards, and his brother James Richards, the father of the late Iocyn Ddu, who was one of the most discerning persons I ever knew. They both declared positively that Goronwy was their author. And to me there appears also some internal evidence in the lines themselves to corroborate this testimony; for I find in their style more of Goronwy's gravity than of the humour of Llewelyn Ddu o Fôn."

This leaves the question open for further investigation. I will therefore produce such evidence as I possess in behalf of Llewelyn Ddu.

On the face of a blank leaf at the beginning of a copy of Dr. Davies's Dictionary in my possession, purchased in 1840 of the late Mr. Edward Parry, of Chester, is the following statement in Mr. Parry's own hand-writing:—

"This was Lewis Morris's copy of Dr. Davies's Dicty. from the collection of the late Richd. Llwyd, the Bard of Snowdon, who purchased it in Anglesey from one of Mr. Morris's relatives.—E.P."

On the back of another blank leaf at the beginning of this book is the following stanza of Welsh poetry, written in Greek characters. At the foot of the page a transcript in English calligraphy is added, the handwriting being similar to that of Goronwy Owain, who at the time of Dr. Evans's decease (July 20, 1742), being above twenty years of age, was one of the masters of the Grammar School at Pwllheli:—

Os marw ar fyrdyr sydd i'm rhan	} Fy anwyl Gyfaill, y
Tyr'd dithau i'r llan i'm danfon;	
A dōd fi orwedd yn y gro;	
Lle cāf orphwyso ddigon,	
Heb neb i gollu ond fy mhlant,	
Eu meddiant o'm gofalon.	(ychydig cyn ei farw),
	a'i canodd.

Then follow the four epitaphial lines written in imitation of print, the explanation added without the brace being in Greek letters, except the last line:—

Duw a yrrodd yn dirion	} ar garreg fedd
Rhag diffyg Feddyg i Fôn;	
O'i Dy oeraidd Daerol,	
I Nef fe'i galwyd yn ôl.	
	y Doctor
	Evans
	yn Llanerchymedd.

Lewis Morris er cōf am y Dr. Evans, yr hwn a fu farw, 20 Gorphen, 1742. Lewis Morris, in a letter (*Camb. Reg.* vol. 1., p. 369), addressed to Samuel Pegge, alludes to the fact that he had

then (1761) been augmenting Dr. Davies's Dictionary. His words are—"What has taken up my chief attention for a good while past, is making additions to Dr. Davies's British Latin Dictionary." Most of the pages in the Welsh-Latin part of my copy contain some additional words written on the margin, but apparently in a handwriting differing from that usually ascribed to Lewis Morris. If these appended words include all the addition which he was able to make, it would appear that he did not accomplish much in his undertaking. The additional words, though not numerous, might, however, be of use along with the "List of some Welsh words omitted in Dr. Davies's Dictionary," contained in Edward Lhuyd's *Archæologia Britannica*, pp. 213-221, in case a new, revised and enlarged edition should be undertaken at some future time. There is no reason why that should not be done by some one or more from the present staff of professors of classical philology in the Principality and elsewhere. It would supply a want often felt by Welsh students when commencing to acquire a knowledge of the language of ancient Rome and its literature. The late Goronva Camlan was of opinion that in preparing Welsh youths for a collegiate course of tuition, the rendering of Latin into Welsh should be practised, which could not be effectually done without the aid of a suitable Latin-Welsh vocabulary. LLALLAWG.

QUERIES.

DR. CHARLES BURNEY.—According to some authorities, this musical worthy was born at Chester, where he undoubtedly received his education. Other biographers claim him as a native of Shrewsbury, but, so far as I am aware, no satisfactory proof has ever yet been given of the fact. Have the parish registers of Shrewsbury been consulted on this point, and if so, with what result? T. HUGHES.

WELSH AND BORDER PRESS.—*Caermarthen*. Taking the *Caermarthen* printers in order of date, as given in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry*, we now come to JOHN ROSS, who printed without date a Welsh edition of Matthew Henry's *Scripture Catechism*, placed under the year 1743. The same authority gives other books printed at *Caermarthen* by Ross in 1744 and 1749, and an undated book from his press is placed under the year 1759. We next find him in partnership with Rhys Thomas printing several books in 1763; it seems, however, that he soon parted company with Thomas and started on his own account, announcing that he was from London, where he had served seven years as foreman in a noted printing-house, and that he was the only one in these parts who had been regularly brought up to the trade. The account of him in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry*, pp., 395-6, is somewhat mystifying; it seems to be inferred that he was in business at *Caermarthen* from 1743 to 1799, yet David and Evan Powell and Rhys Thomas are spoken of as old printers living at *Caermarthen* before his coming, but the earliest book mentioned as printed by either of these is dated 1757. We are also informed that "he died some time in 1799 or else early in 1800, for an advertisement is to be met with that his widow died in January, 1800, aged 100." For confirmation of this we are referred to the *British Magazine*, 1800, p. 204, where we find among the deaths the following announcement:—"Legygowan, Jan. 2. Mrs. Ross, wife of Mr. Ross, printer, *Caermarthen*," and Mr. Silvan Evans, in the *Revue Celtique*, vol. ii. p. 36, quotes a Welsh sermon by Josiah Rees preached at *Caermarthen*, June 5, 1800, in the imprint of which occurs the name of John Ross, thus showing that he was still alive

and carrying on business in June, 1800, notwithstanding that his widow is said to have died six months previously at the venerable age of 100 years! Putting aside the somewhat doubtful 1759 book, there will be two ways of explaining this matter. There may have been two John Rosses, father and son; or it may have been one and the same John Ross starting in business at *Caermarthen* about 1743, after a few years migrating to London, then about 1763 returning to *Caermarthen* as partner with Rhys Thomas, and eventually working up a successful business of his own. Can any reader of *Bye-gones* ascertain the date of Ross' death and his age, or otherwise assist in elucidating the confused account given in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry*? W. H. ALLNUTT.

Oxford.

REPLIES.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES (Nov. 7, 1877).—Perhaps you will allow me to point out to your correspondent that Thomas *Walter* and Thomas *Walton*, in his list are one and the same person—whose real name was Thomas *Walton*. His will is dated 22 Aug., 1754—and has a codicil dated 23 Aug. 1755. His death took place 6 Feb. 1757. His money built and endowed two schools one at Seamons Moss and the other at Littleheath, both in Bowdon parish. One school cost £2,000, and had a share of the income arising from £5,241 left by him for charitable purposes, the other cost £200, and had the income arising from £1,120 left by the said testator. Such a liberal benefactor certainly deserves to have his name remembered, and the facts concerning him accurately stated. Similarly Sir John *Walter* and Sir John *Walton* in this list are one and the same person, who was Chief Baron of the Exchequer, *temp.*, Charles I. His real name was Sir John *Walter*, and I therefore presume that his brother or cousin's name should be William *Walter* and not William *Walton*. E.

OLD FOLKS (Sep. 5, 1877).—"In the year 1873 there died at Abersychan a woman named Edwards, aged 103 years and 6 months; in 1871 one Thomas Jones was interred in Trevethin churchyard, aged 102 years and 9 months, not far from the grave of Elizabeth Rees, who died in 1841, aged 102 years; and a few years ago there was living, not a quarter of a mile from the church [Trevethin], an old woman named Tamar Parry, who claimed to reckon 106 years."—*The Usk Gleaner*, January, 1878.—"At Chepstow, January 7th, deeply regretted by her relatives and friends, Mary, relict of the late James Clark of that town, and mother of J. H. Clark, of Usk, in the 100th year of her age."—*County Observer* [Usk], January 12, 1878. What will Mr. Thoms think of the above extracts? H. E.

MARCH 13, 1878.

NOTES.

OWEN GWYNEDD'S PEDIGREE.—Dr. Powel in his *Historie of Cambria*, p. 167, states, when treating of the reputed voyages of Prince Madoc, son of Owen Gwynedd, that he "went thither [western cuntries] againe with ten sails, as I find noted by Gutyn Owen." In which of Gutyn Owen's books this fact is recorded has hitherto remained undiscovered. No mention of it being found in *Llyfr Du Basing*, which is an epitome of British History by him, it has been suggested that a search should be made for the pedigree of Owen Gwynedd by him, as that may possibly contain some allusion to it. A collection of Welsh pedigrees by Gutyn Owen is known to be among

the *Hengwrt MSS.* (April 9, 1873), but whether it gives any account of the family of Owen Gwynedd has to be ascertained. Dr. Powel in his address "To the Reader," prefixed to his *Histories*, enumerates the several books which he had by him when he was preparing that work, and adds that he "had also the British books of Petegrees," but he does not say whose collections they were nor to whom they belonged. Any information, therefore, tending to elucidate the several points embraced in this inquiry will be very desirable. LLALLAWG.

ROWLAND HILL.—This good and dear old Salopian worthy was as quaint as he was pious, and many are the true and untrue stories related of him in proof of both characteristics. He had a favourite organist at Surrey Chapel named Jacob, who called upon him on a glorious summer's day with a huge umbrella under his arm. Old Rolly laughed at him, and laughed the more on being told that he carried the umbrella because *Moore* had prophesied in his almanack "it would be wet" about the time. Mr. Hill soon afterwards sent him a barometer with the following lines:—

There is a physician of wonderful fame,
Whether dead or alive, Francis Moore is his name;
Yet help'd by the planets, he prophecies still
What weather comes next, with wonderful skill.
This astrologer knows whether rainy or dry,
Whether thunder or tempest shall blacken the sky;
Whether frost, sleet, or snow in December shall be,
Whether March or September shall cover the sea
With storms and tornadoes, which surely shall make
E'en the stout-hearted seaman to tremble and quake.
Then who can believe what barometers say,
When this famous astrologer, clear as the day,
Can see at a glance what weather must rise,
By the dance of the planets, to manage the skies?
But not to affront you, if in your esteem
Francis Moore and his prophecies ever have been,
I send you a prophet more modest and shy,
That can venture to tell you the state of the sky.
When from pupil to pupil you fly like a bee
To teach tweddle-dum and eke tweddle dee,
This prophet, if minded, will tell to a tee
How far your umbrella is needed or no,
To cover your noddle from hail, rain or snow.
Then give my poor prophet a place in your house,
And there he'll abide as still as a mouse.
While on staircase or lobby he quietly stands,
No eating or drinking, or fee he demands.
Still, precisely the hour he does not pretend
To say when the rain, or the snow will descend,
Yet he'll give you a warning most clear and correct
What changes of weather you're next to expect.
While Moore, the astrologer, can but relate
A guess at the best as it passes his pate.

I have heard it stated that *Francis Moore* was a native of Shropshire, but he is not mentioned by Mr. Salisbury, and I conclude, therefore, that this is a mistake.

GLADWYN.

QUERIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Jan. 30, 1878).—*William Leigh.* In 1795 I find a gentleman of this name elected as a guardian of the Oswestry House of Industry, and representing the town; and in 1798, "William Leigh, Esq.," subscribed a couple of guineas to the Patriotic Fund in Oswestry. I have always understood that Mr. Leigh was the host at the Wynnstay Arms Hotel; but on reference to a newspaper bearing date Apr. 1802 I find the latter only then entering on that house. Mr. Leigh is there described as "from Hockley House." Who and what was the "William Leigh, Esq.," whose name appears as an Oswestrian as early as 1795? JARCO.

EDWARD BURY OF BOLAS.—I have read with much interest the account of the old Shropshire family at Boreatton (Oct. 31, 1877); particularly the notice of Thomas Hunt, Esq., who was M.P. for Shrewsbury during the Commonwealth. Your correspondent, however, does not appear to be aware of a curious little book, published in 1660, and dedicated to him. Of this, which is a very uncommon volume and written by a Shropshire clergyman, I send you the following particulars from a copy in my possession. Its title is:—

The Souls Looking-glass; wherein a man may discern what estate his Soul stands in towards God, and what evidences he hath for heaven. Or a spiritual Touchstone, whereby true grace may be discovered from counterfeit; Very necessary, especially in these erring times, wherein so much counterfeit Grace goes for current. By *Edward Bury*, Minister of Gods Word at great *Bolas in Shropshire.*

[2 Cor. 13. 5.]

London, Printed by Robert White for Nevil Simmons Bookseller in Kederminster. 1660.

Small 8vo. The Epistle Dedicatory. To the Reader. The Table, Errata, 24 leaves. The Souls Looking Glass pp. 1 to 304. The Dedication is as follows:—

To the Worshipful and Religious Gentleman Col. THOMAS HUNT, Esquire, Governour of SHREWSBURY, and one of the members of the present Parliament, and to Mrs. ELIZABETH HUNT, his most pious consort, E.B. wisheth encrease of Grace here and Glory hereafter.

Worshipful and truly beloved, when as a gracious providence cast me into acquaintance with your faces, and heavenly conversation, I easily found that you had much intimacy with God and much acquaintance with your own hearts.

I joyn you both together in this Dedication, because God hath joyned you in a nearer tie; he hath made you not only one flesh, but also of one heart, and therefore well may I say with Hierom in the like case, Jungat Epistola quos junxit conjugium; charta non dividat quos Christi necit amor.

Accept I beseech you of this small testimony of that great affection which he beareth you, who subscribes himself

Yours and the Churches Servant,

Bolas, March 10, 1659.

EDWARD BURY.

This Dedication is followed by an address "to the Reader," signed *Henry Osland*, and dated from Bewdly, May 3, 1660. After this is another address—

To the well disposed Readers, especially those his dearly beloved Friends and Auditors, the Inhabitants of Great Bolas, and places adjacent. [Signed,] Thine for thy souls health, EDWARD BURY.

The list of Errata is prefaced and followed by some lines of verse that are perhaps worth quoting for their quaintness.

Ere thou dost censure good or ill,
Mend these mistakings with thy quill

[List of Errata]

If thou dost find more things amiss,

Consider, man the Author is:

Let not mistaken words offend;

The most, I fear, have needs to mend.

Let him whose works from faults are free,

Be first that throws a stone at me.

Can any of your correspondents give any further particulars of Edward Bury of Great Bolas, or of Henry Osland, of Bewdly? J.P.F.

Manchester.

REPLIES.

THE CHARTER OF LLANIDLOES (Oct. 17, 1877).—The "strange and barbarous confusion" of the records at Chester Castle, to which the Municipal Commissioner in 1833 so pointedly referred in his official report, did not much longer continue. In 1852, the entire collection of Welsh and Cheshire Records, filling several waggons, was removed under proper escort to London,

and placed in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, reserving only at Chester Castle the documents belonging to the present century. Of a great proportion of these Records, which extend from the end of the 13th century to the close of the 18th, admirable calendars have been prepared by Mr. Peter Turner, of the Public Record Office, and are a mine of wealth for the historic student. The Rolls contain, inter alia, the enrolments of charter, commissions, and letters patent; but so far as the calendars have as yet been made public, viz.: to the end of Henry VII's reign (1508) there is no trace whatever of any charter to Llanidloes. The Charter of Liberties to the burgesses of Oswaldestre, on the contrary, does appear in the Calendar, under date 22 Richard II., 1398.

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

Your correspondent, A BURGESS, may be interested to know that all the old records formerly in such lamentable confusion at Chester Castle have been transferred to the Record Office, London, where they are now being arranged and classified as rapidly as possible. I would add, that I think it extremely doubtful that any charter relating to Llanidloes would be found amongst them, unless, indeed, it had been granted by one of the Earls of Chester, which is very improbable. The Patent Rolls in the Record Office are the most likely places to search.

J.P.E.

ST. DAVID'S DAY (Feb. 27, 1878).—It seems to have been the custom prior to 1765, and for a few years after, for the Ancient Britons to wait on the Prince of Wales every first of March—present an address, and receive a hundred guineas for the charity. But it would appear the Prince of Wales got tired of his Welsh subjects "laying themselves at his feet," as he got older, and the novelty wore off, accordingly in the record of the ceremony in 1772, it is stated that on Mar. 1,

Lord Grosvenor, as president of the Society of Ancient Britons, accompanied by the stewards of the society, waited on his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and received the annual present towards maintaining, clothing, and educating the helpless orphans of indigent Welsh parents. They were received graciously, but given to understand, that future applications of that kind would be discountenanced.

This reads as if no more money was to be forthcoming, as well as that there was to be a cessation of the visits, but in 1773, we read:—

Mar. 1. Being St. David's Day, the tutelar saint of Wales: the same was observed at Court as a high festival; and a sermon was preached at St. Martins by the Bishop of Chester, before the Society of Ancient Britons, his Grace the Duke of Beaufort being their President. The Society, however, were not permitted to approach his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, but received the usual present by the hands of one of the members. In 1774 the record says that the stewards "did not wait upon the Prince of Wales as usual, but it is said that his Royal Highness's bounty of £105 was continued as formerly." In 1775 no mention is made of the Prince at all, we are simply told that the festival was held as usual, "when the collection amounted to £562 19s. 9d." In 1776, however, the Welshmen seem to have been restored to royal favour, and we read:—

Mar. 1. Being St. David's Day, the tutelar saint of Wales, the stewards of the Society of Ancient Britons waited on his royal highness the Prince of Wales, to compliment him on the occasion; when he was pleased to make them a present of a hundred guineas towards the support of that useful charity, for the educating of poor friendless Welch children, in London; and the sum of £464 10s. 2d. was collected for the same laudable purpose, at their yearly dinner.

I find no further record (in the *Annual Register*,) of the doings of the Society, in any shape, until 1782. What was done then I will state another week.

N.W.S.

CURRENT NOTES.

OSWESTRY TREES.—A correspondent writes:—"All lovers of the beautiful in nature, and Old Oswestrians in particular, will learn with regret that the Governors of the Oswestry Schools are about to cut down some of the fine old trees above Oswald's Well, now one of the most charming walks on a summer evening that remains to us. It would seem that Trees have always been unfortunate in Oswestry. Our Conservatism does not extend to the preservation of the beautiful in nature, or in art; hence the destruction of ancient landmarks that has always gone on amongst us. There are none living, perhaps, who remember the glorious avenue in the Churchyard when it was one of the finest in the country; but we are told in our local histories that within the lifetime of the oldest inhabitant, the ugly wall that partially spoilt it, was built; but with the understanding that no trees behind it were to be disturbed; and a clause was inserted in the deed to the effect that the Vicar was at all times to have access to the ground to see that the agreement was kept, and was enjoined to cause fresh ones to be planted where any, by accident or decay, were destroyed. Our readers know how far our bye-gone Vicars did their duty in the matter. Then there was the Mile Oak,—a tree famous in local history, and beautiful in itself—cut down to see if a table top could be made out of it; which, the event proved, it could not! Then there was such a row of trees "Under the English Walls" as is rare in any town; and many are the pleasant recollections of that row in the memories of some of us. These were *supposed* to be in the way of the projected Cattle Market; so down they came. Another instance within the recollection of the youngest, was the attempted destruction of that ornament to Oswestry, the trees in Church-street, saved only by the protest of the Town Council. The reason assigned for their destruction was that they darkened the Church; yet almost immediately afterwards windows were filled with coloured glass, which far more effectually darkened the building. In the case of destruction now meditated—that of the trees above Oswald's Well,—the reason assigned for their destruction is want of money! Would it not have been better for the Governors to have counted the cost before they commenced their operations?"

MARCH 20, 1878.

NOTES.

WEDDING DAYS.—The other day when trying to fix upon a convenient wedding day—not for superstitions, but for business reasons—a friend of mine at Aberystwyth quoted the following lines to guide my choice:—

"Monday for wealth,
Tuesday for health,
Wednesday's the best day of all;
Thursday for losses,
Friday for crosses,
And Saturday, no day at all."

Thursday is, I believe, the "fashionable day" at Aberystwyth.

W. R. H.

THE GREAT FLOOD AT LLANFIHANGEL.

In the month of June, 1781, a remarkable flood occurred in the parish of Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, and a record of the height of the flood is recorded in the parish church.

In the Revd. D. R. Thomas's *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, the following notice is taken of this flood: "On the north side (of the church) is an interesting memorial of Blwyddyn y Lli Mawr 1781, when a great flood swept into the church to a height of 8 feet 7 inches from the floor, and carried away a portion of the chancel." This account is sufficiently long in a book of the nature of Mr. Thomas's, but perhaps a few more particulars respecting this flood may just as well find a place in *Bye-gones*. To understand the possibility of a great rise in the river that runs on the north side of the church, it should be borne in mind that the river Alwen rushes between two mountains for a considerable distance before it reaches the pretty glen at the end of which the church stands, and when there is a heavy fall of rain the rivulets on both sides the mountain declivities that hem in the river pour themselves into the river and swell its waters. The country drained by the Alwen before it comes to the church glen is considerable. But again there was in the year of the flood another cause for the great rise in the river. The lower part of the glen was formerly dammed up by an embankment and a bridge with a low span, and this span was hardly large enough to allow the water to escape through it, particularly when the river was very high. But in the month of June, 1781, the river, it is said, swept away a stack of hay (we presume it was one that had been harvested in 1780) and this completely blocked up the arch of the bridge, and higher and still higher the water rose until it found an escape over the bridge. The church is only a few feet above the level of the river, and the churchyard abuts upon the river, and upon any very high flood it does not seem to be over safe in these days. But then the water must have found its way with ease into the church, and it was not a quiet visit thereto that it made, but a ruthless attack thereon, for it carried off a part of the east wall of the church. The height reached by the flood was marked on the walls of the church by the waters themselves, in the first instance, and the inhabitants to perpetuate the same drew a black line along this water mark. This black line, by repeated whitewashings, was in danger of disappearing, when the Rev. Ellis Roberts, the late vicar of the parish, took the precaution to perpetuate the height of the flood, and he had the present stone tablet put up on a part of the black line with the words "Llif mawr mehefin, 1781," inscribed thereon, i.e., the great flood, June, 1781. There are a few things in connection with the flood that are said to have taken place upon that occasion. The river's course was then changed. It ran previous to the flood on the south side of the church, and not on the north side as at present. The church, in consequence of the river being the boundary line between Merionethshire and Denbighshire, is apparently in Denbighshire, but really it is in Merionethshire—for the river at present is not the boundary between both counties in that part of the glen where the church is, though it is so below the church. The change in the boundary line is to be accounted for by the river making for itself a new bed. It is also said that this flood swept away a fuller's house or pandy and mill that stood several hundred yards from the church, in the upper end of the glen, and that the inhabitants with difficulty escaped. The husband made a hole through the straw roof, and when on the top he helped his wife on to the house top. Both were rescued from their perilous position. What seems to corroborate this is the names of places where the house is said to have stood. There is there now a Ffynon-y-pandy, and by the river a short distance from the well a Pwll or twll-y-pandy. But there is no pandy, walkmill, at present in existence. Tradition says the great flood swept it away. The spot where the Pandy

stood is now a marshy piece of ground. Looking down upon the glen from the quiet vicarage which stands on a knoll on which a few trees grow, the beauties of the place are strikingly pleasing. On either side slope the hills, bared of trees on their summits, but with a few birch trees by the river side, and with patches of gorse here and there. A few sheep ramble over the steep declivity on yonder side; and on this are a few ploughed fields with their stone walls, which, though high as they are, are easily climbed over by the small, active mountain sheep. The seclusion of the place is remarkable, and in ages gone by the glen might have been the abode of beavers. Looking down upon the valley, the belfry of the small narrow church peeps out among the branches of the old withering yew tree, which stands in the churchyard, and then a portion of the few houses that compose the picturesque village come to view. The large arch of the bridge that took the place of the old one stands beldly above the foaming torrent that rushes madly along underneath. The arch seems to defy the river to fill its ample mouth. The glen is not large; perhaps it is not more than thirty acres. On the side of the river at the upper part of the glen, just below the vicarage, is a cob or embankment about thirty yards long, carefully built with large stones to keep the sportive rambling river in its present channel, and which likewise seems to have been made after the great flood, but parts of it have already given way, and probably, if not attended to, some future June flood will rush through this barrier and restore the river to its old bed and the church to its county. IAGO.

QUERIES.

CWM-EARL, KERRY.—After the battle of Mortimer's Cross in 1461 (where Owen Tudor was taken and decapitated) it is well known that Jasper Tudor, Earl of Pembroke, and the other supporters of the Earl of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) took refuge in the Welsh mountains, pursued by "diverse lords with great puissance" (*Paston Letters*), the retainers of King Edward IV. The hardships some of them endured wandering about woods, dingles, and mountains, are graphically described by the Lancastrian poet, Lewys Glyn Cothi, who refers particularly to his own hiding places at Allt-y-brain, Cwm-buga, the "foot" of Pumlunua, Pennant Bacho and Glyn Trefnant, all in the parish of Trefeglwys. There is a faint tradition that Jasper himself (if not also his ward, Richmond) lurked about Newtown. There is a farm called Cwm-earl in Kerry parish. Can it refer to one of his hiding places? R.W.

Newtown.

ST. MARY'S WELL.—At Dolgelley there is a well noted for its healing virtues, and known as St. Mary's Well. Can any of your readers give me information respecting it—whether it is public or private property? I should also like to know some of its history, and any legend or interesting fact connected with it. It was repaired some time ago at the joint expense of Messrs. Lewis Williams (Fronwnion), Walker, and others. E.

EVANS THE BELLMAN.—Can any Oswestry reader give reminiscences of Evans, who was bellman more than half a century ago? I have seen a portrait of him in the cocked hat and red and gold coat so familiar to our boyhood; and which, it has been said, once so astonished a stranger that he exclaimed, "If that is your bellman, what must your mayor be?" In the picture the face shows originality of character, which I have always understood Evans possessed. OSWALD.

REPLIES.

DOLWYDDELAN (Mar. 6, 1878).—I quite agree with "W." and the editor of *Bye-gones* on the necessity for preserving the spelling of Welsh names—always significant; but I would remind those gentlemen that the correspondent of the *Cambrian News* is not the first person who has sinned in connection with the word in question. On the marble tablet containing the family pedigree in the Gwydir chapel, Llanrwst, the name is spelt "Dolwethelan."

TYRO.

Dolyddelen = Elen's Meadows; *Dolwyddelan* = Gwyddelan's Meadow. "W." does not say whence comes the sign of the hostellerie, "Elen's Castle," at this romantic village.

X.

DOLYDDELEN, and not Dolwyddelan, shall continue to be my orthography. The authorities the worthy correspondent of "Bye-gones" referred to I have read. "Sir John Wynn's History of Gwydir Family" I read years ago. It is the chief and oldest authority that he brings forward to sustain his spelling. All the others, early and late, only copied Sir John Wynn's way of spelling. There were men inhabiting this place before the grandfather of Sir John migrated here from Merioneth. The castle was built in the fifth century—very nearly a thousand years before his grandfather moved here, and two hundred years before Saint Gwyddelan was born. There were at the time, according to the tradition or folklore, handed down from generation to generation, four farms in the parish, namely, Hafotty Mur Coch, Hafotty Gwyr Enig, Hafotty Gwenllai, and Hafotty Bryn is-gell. The place had a name then, as it has now. It was called says the tradition, Dol-Gwydd-Elen, as the whole neighbourhood was covered then with dense forest. A road was constructed through the parish, which is called by the inhabitants "Ffordd Elen." In the parish there is a well also called "Ffynnon Elen." Near Conway there is a place called "Pen Caer Elen," and close to the parish "Sarn Elen" and "Rhyd Elen." But we have not the least particle of evidence that Gwyddelan was connected with the place. It is a fact that our church is dedicated to Saint Gwyddelan, but a church may have one name and the parish another name, as is the case with Bettwsycoed and many other places.

But says some one, if the place was spelt Dol-Gwydd-Elen, or rather Dolwyddelen once, how did they alter it to Dolyddelen? In this way: The whole forest was cut down—not hardly a tree was left in the meadow. The place now had two or three large bleak meadows. It was all very well to call it at first "the meadow of Elen's timber," but now the timber was cleared away. Alteration in appearance required also an alteration in name. It is so with many things. After this it was called Dolyddelen. This Elen was Elen Lueddawg, who is recorded in history. There was a name to the place two hundred years before Saint Gwyddelan was born! It is probable that people were much keener then than they are now. No doubt they foresaw that a saintly boy would be born and named Saint Gwyddelan, in honour of whom as a patron it would be worth while to call the place Dolwyddelan. The second, if not the first Welsh scholar, now in existence, who cannot find a germ of truth in that ought to be banished to some other country. I do not know how they pronounced the name in the time of Sir John Wynn. I am not acquainted with anyone who lived then. But the probability is that it was pronounced then as it is pronounced at present. It is pronounced now "Dol'ddelen," or rather "Dol'ddelan." There is a tendency to give the sound of "an" to "en," when it is an affix, in this quarter. My ancestors lived here some

hundred years before Meredydd ab Ifan moved here from "Gesail Gyfarch." I tell the story that was handed down to me from them. But listen. I do not want any one to believe it. I believe neither the one nor the other myself. This place must be known by some name, and I adopt Dolyddelen not because I believe absolutely this theory as to its derivation, but because it is more probable than the others. For myself I am willing to let every one have his own way of spelling it. It matters little to me how it is spelt. We do not encroach on any one. We never had enough self-conceit as yet to say that we are right when we know that history, folklore and tradition are various and contradictory on that point.

ELLIS O'R NANT.

THO: BOYCOTT (Dec. 26, 1877).—This Denbighshire county justice, who dealt out such harsh measure to the Wesleyan preacher, Mr. John Oliver, was of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, B.A., 1731, and was the eldest son of the Rev. Richard Boycott, rector of Whittington, Salop, from 1722 to 1749. The greater part of his married life appears to have been spent in Denbighshire: certainly he resided for several years at Trevalyn, near the pretty village of Gresford, where he married his wife, Jane, daughter of John Puleston, Esq., of Pickhill, near that place. There his son, Thomas, was born in 1771, and a daughter, Maria, two years previously. Mr. Boycott died in June, 1798, and was buried at Whitechurch.

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

PRISONERS OF WAR IN OSWESTRY (Feb. 6, 1878).—Some records of the Prisoners of War who were in Oswestry 1812-14, may be found in the minute books of the House of Industry. For instance, in the following orders from the Directors to their clerk:—

May 3, 1813. Ordered that Mr. Lewis Jones do write to Edward Griffiths, Diana his wife, Robert Jones their apprentice, and Mr. Combe a French Prisoner of War, staying at the said Edward Griffiths's house in the town of Oswestry, to compel them to come forward and make such satisfaction as the Directors shall require for the injury done by them to Thomas Thomas, a poor boy now residing at Morda, by frightening him on Thursday, the 3rd of December last; so that the said Thomas Thomas has been sorely afflicted with fits ever since, and is likely so to continue, and in consequence of which, he the said Thomas Thomas is now charged to the parish of Oswestry.

May 24, 1813. Ordered that Mr. Lewis Jones be requested to take such measures as are necessary for the recovery of the sum of £5 penalty incurred by Mr. Chas. Ogee, a French Prisoner in Oswestry, for concealing Elizabeth Edwards who broke out of the House on Tuesday night last, with Mary Jones, they both being then under the care and control of the Directors. And that Mr. Jones do take such measures as are necessary for the commitment of the said Mary Jones and Elizabeth Edwards to the House of Correction for the said offence.

Earlier in the same year I also find the name of "Fred-erick, Baron de Schlitehing;" who had acted the part of the Gay Lothario in the town; and who is called upon by the Directors to pay £20 in consequence.

JARCO.

CURRENT NOTES.

The death is announced of Mr. James Hain Friswell, at Fair-house, Bexley-heath, Kent. Mr. Friswell was well known as an essayist and author. He was born at Newport, Shropshire, and educated at Aspley Guise School, Bedfordshire. His first literary work appeared in 1852 in the *Puppet Show*, conducted by Albert Smith. He

contributed to many newspapers and reviews, and was editor and author of numerous works, the best known being the "Gentle Life" (a series of moral essays), a special edition of which was, by desire, dedicated to the Queen. Mr. Friswell had been for several years in ill-health, but he continued his work till the day of his death.

Llandyrnog church, near Ruthin, has been re-opened after restoration. In scraping the old plaster off the walls it was found that they had been at one time decorated with Old English texts in curious borders, worked upon the plaster, and subsequently covered with whitewash. The workmen destroyed most of the inscriptions, but the clerk of the works was able to save one of them, which is said to be beautifully illuminated.

The following is from *Vanity Fair*:—"There is a hero of the Turkish campaign of whom very little has been heard, but whose name fills every mouth of those who were at Kamarli or in Suleiman's retreat. This hero is Dr. Gill, a Shrewsbury [Wem] practitioner, of a presence by no means imposing, but with the touch of a woman and the heart of a lion, who left his country patients to take service with the Turks. He was always in the very front of the fight, wherever it might be, and at Kamarli he endured fever, dysentery, and starvation rather than abandon his post. The Turks adored him, and both Baker Pasha and Captain Burnaby speak in the warmest terms of his courage, his skill, and his endurance."

MARCH 27, 1878.

THE LATE THOMAS WRIGHT, F.S.A.—All the Salopian, and indeed other newspapers of Dec. 1877, in recording the death of this celebrated Antiquary, spoke of him as being a Salopian, and born near Ludlow. The fact seems to have been quite overlooked that so lately as 1875, Mr. Roach Smith, in a letter to the *Journal*, stated, on Mr. Wright's own authority, that he was born at Tenbury, in Worcestershire.

NOTES.

EPITAPH IN YSGEIFIOTG CHURCHYARD.—

The following inscription on a tomb in Ysgweifiotg Churchyard is worthy of a place in *Bye-gones* for more reasons than one:—

"Here lyeth the Body of the late Hugh Hughes, of Coed y brain, Esqr., in hopes of a blessed Resurrection.

"He had the Honour in 1743 to serve the Publick in the office of high Sheriff for this County.

"In private life, his manner was constantly to attend the Public worship as by Law established, heartily to declare against the upstart Sect of the Brain Sick Methodists that would take men off from it; timely to compose Differences between Neighbours ere they became exasperated. By which behaviour, He was valued when living; and when Dead much lamented. He departed this life July the 7th, 1752, age 44, leaving an only Daughter and a Widow behind him." IAGO.

QUERIES.

CHESTER PACKET BOAT.—In a Shrewsbury newspaper under date Aug. 5, 1795, I read "Since the first sailing of the packet boat between Chester and the Mersey, little more than a month, the aggregate number of passengers exceed seventeen hundred." How was this packet propelled, and to what port on the Mersey did it ply? WREXHAMITE.

BRYNELEN.—On the western side of the parish of Nantewnllle, Cardiganshire, is a farm known now by the name of Brynele, but in old documents of two hundred years ago the name was Brynelen. In 1555 it belonged to a David Lloyd who resided there, and who possessed a considerable amount of property in Carmarthenshire. His daughter Sarah was married in the above-named year to Thomas Evans, of Llanllawddog, and with her he had Achaeth as a marriage portion, but in the marriage settlement there was a power of redemption. After what Elen was Brynelen so named, and where is Achaeth and to whom does it now belong? LLALLAWG.

MR. ROBERT COTTON.—I find in an old scrap Book the following "Song on Mr. Cotton of Combermere Coming of Age 11th September, 1789":—

- 1 Time on his ever moving Wings,
At length, the wish'd for Morning brings,
That ushers in his natal Day,
For whom we tune our vocal Lay.

CHORUS.

With festive Joy, and decent Mirth,
Come let us celebrate his Birth;
And all unite with Spirits gay,
In Harmony to crown the Day.

- 2 Hail! auspicious Era, hail!
May Heav'n's choice Blessings never fail,
To crown him thro' a length of years,
While virtue guides him, valour steers.

CHORUS, With festive Joy, &c.,

- 3 Be it his Glory to embrace
That Worth which dignifies his Race,
Whilst we proclaim, how we revere,
The honour'd House of COMBERMERE.

CHORUS, With festive Joy, &c.

- 4 Push them about and briskly pass,
The flowing Bowl, and sparkling Glass,
And while Time rolls his constant Round,
May he with Health and Peace be crown'd.

Chorus, With festive Joy and decent Mirth,
Come let us celebrate his Birth,
And all unite with Spirits gay,
In Harmony to crown the Day.

What relation was the "Mr. Cotton" referred to here to the celebrated Lord Combermere? LANDWOR.

REPLIES.

ST. DAVID'S DAY (Mar. 13, 1878).—The record preserved of the doings of March 1, 1782, is as follows:—

Friday, March 1st. Being St. David's Day, the anniversary of the Society of Ancient Britons was held, when an excellent sermon was preached on the occasion at St. Andrew's, Holborn, by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells. After which they proceeded to the Crown and Anchor Tavern, where an elegant entertainment was provided. The collection after dinner was as follows, viz.

Collection at Church	29 17 0
His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, annual donation	105 0 0
The Right Hon. Lord Bagot, president ..	50 0 0
Richard Pennant, vice-president	20 0 0
Rev. Robert Carter Chelwall, ditto	20 0 0
Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bart., annual donation	25 0 0
Edward Lovenden, Esq., treasurer	21 0 0
Right Hon. Earl of Plymouth	21 0 0
Right Hon. Earl of Godolphin	21 0 0
Collection at several tables	147 0 0

£459 17 0

The Right Hon. Lord Vernon, president, and many gentlemen of rank and fortune, stewards for the year ensuing.

The "Richard Pennant" mentioned in the above was high sheriff for Carnarvon the same year, and during the year following was created "Baron Penrhyn, in the county of Louth."

The following year the annual sermon was preached at St. George's, Hanover Square, by the Bishop of Bristol. The total subscriptions amounted to about £7 more than in 1782. The next record I have is of the doings in 1798, on which occasion we are told

The honourable society of Ancient Britons, attended by their president, Lord Gwidir, went to St. James's Church, preceded by the children of the Welch Charity, where a sermon was preached by the Bishop of Bristol, from the first epistle general of Peter, c. ii. v. 27. The prayers were read in the Ancient British language, by the Rev. T. Alban, chaplain to the Society. In the course of the service, Te Deum Jubilate, and an anthem, were sung by a society of gentlemen belonging to Portland Chapel. The Prince of Wales's annual donation of one hundred guineas, was given, and the Stewards made a liberal subscription at the Church.

N.W.S.

SUDDEN FALL OF CHURCHES (May 20, 1874).—At this date SALOPIAN stated that in 1786 "part of the great nave, and the whole of the curious and magnificent front, of Hereford Cathedral gave way, and in a moment became a heap of ruins." I see by the *Annual Register* of 1793, that during the repairs, that were then going on, fears were entertained that the south transept would share the same fate, it was said "the walls are beginning to spread, buttresses have been run up on the outside, but it is by no means secure."

ANON.

DICK SPOT (Dec. 20, 1876).—There is in the British Museum a pamphlet entitled "The | Life | and | mysterious transactions | of | Richard Morris, Esq., | better known by the name of | Dick Spot the conjuror | particularly in Derbyshire and Shropshire | written by an old acquaintance who was a critical observer of all his actions for neare fifty years," &c. London 1798. Author not named. In it it is stated that Richard Morris was born at Bakewell in Derbyshire in 1710. The name "Dick Spot" was given to him from his having "from birth a black spot on his face near his nose. His father was a soldier at the time of the union and died before Dick had completed his sixth year. By his mother he was nearly related to the late Sir Richard Arkwright, the greatest mechanic in the Kingdom; and by his father he also claimed relationship to the founder of the Soho Manufactory.

"Mrs. Morris survived her husband but two years and left her son to the care of her sister Deborah Heathcote, who gave him as good learning as her circumstances would permit, which though not affluent, was liberal, sufficient to give him an introduction to any business he might have an inclination for.

"Dick certainly during the time of his being at school applied his talents to a good purpose for he was much the best calculator of any man of his acquaintance; and his observations of life obviated and removed the necessity of applying to books; for it is a fact that in all his travels he never carried a book not even of roads or directions, but possessed everything as it were by intuitive knowledge.

His hours of amusement were not spent like those of other children: a sullen and mysterious reserve marked his manners; yet at all times this thoughtfulness would give way to athletic exercise; but this was seldom, for he seemed at most times to be absorbed within himself and would for a long time keep his eyes so fixed upon some inanimate object that observers used to call him 'The Sullen Boy.'

"Mrs. Heathcote his aunt, who it has been observed was independent in circumstances contrived to better them by advising the young and amusing the aged in their various concerns of life. The truth is she was a fortune teller; and report declares that she had a happy knack of drawing the secrets of futurity from their hidden recess. From this circumstance Dick might borrow the hint; but he certainly out-run his aunt as far before he was twelve years old, as a wooden clock is removed from a repeater or a stop-watch though each will declare the time of day. Her fee was constantly half-a-crown; but her nephew never opened his lips before the physician's fee was posted; i. e., a Guinea."

The tales of which the book is made up have nothing in particular in them. They are much the same as those told of any other conjuror. Dick seems to have had no fixed residence but travelled about from one town to another.

His leisure hours (p. 30) "were employed in some mechanism or other. There is a clock of his making at the White Horse at Frankwell in Shrewsbury, which is mostly constructed of wood in wch he has applied an uncommon and very curious escapement and compound pendulum of his own invention. This though a wooden clock scarcely errs a second in a month."

(p. 30) He wrote in the *Conjurors Magazine* of Decr. 1791 under "Notices for January" "The Head of Sweden will die a cruel and unnatural death." The Magazine was in the hands of the public four clear months before 26th April 1792, "the date of the successful attempt of the regicide Ankerstrom, the news of wch was announced on 'Change on the 15th May."

(p. 36) "To those who have a curiosity to hear the history of his last moments I shall just subjoin that exhausted nature went off gently and without a struggle; yet there certainly was heard a very extraordinary rapping against the wainscot of the room he died in and of wch he seemed sensible but not affected by it; for when his attendants asked him if he heard the noise behind the wainscot he faintly answered 'Yes' and a little while after he said 'My continuance will be determined by the light of the lamp wch will go out before morning,' and wch assuredly came to pass as he said. Thus lived and thus died Richard Morris, Esq., at the age of 83, March 4th, 1793, at Oswestry in Shropshire, and on the tenth he was buried in St. Mary's Church-yard, Shropshire."

AP GWYNEDD.

SHELLEY AT TREMADOC.

There are some interesting and startling incidents connected with the poet's residence in Wales, recorded in *Shelley's Memorials* (King and Co., 1875). It is there stated that when at Tanyrallt, Tremadoc, he contributed towards the expenses of the embankment at Portmadoc; and that he was obliged to leave Wales, through fear of his life, being twice shot at. I have visited Tanyrallt, and may add that even in these prosaic days I find it a becoming abode for a poet.

I have taken the trouble to make a few extracts from the book, and if this meets the eye of the author of the *Gossipping Guide to Wales*, perhaps he will say on what authority he discredits Shelley's story?

In 1812 Shelley lived at Lynmouth, in Devonshire. "In the restlessness of his disposition," the narrative proceeds, "Shelley proceeded to Tanyrallt, Caernarvonshire, where he hired a cottage belonging to Mr. Maddox. This gentleman had reclaimed several thousand acres from the sea, but the embankment proved insufficient during an

unusually high tide. The poor cottagers living on this hazardous land were thrown into great distress by the incursions of the sea consequent on the breaches made in the earthworks, and Shelley now exhibited a remarkable proof of that noble munificence which was one of the most striking features of his character. He personally solicited subscriptions from the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, and himself headed the list with a donation of £500, though his means were small. But he did not allow his zeal to stop even here, for accompanied by his wife, he hurried up to London to obtain further succour. He was finally successful in his efforts: the embankment was rebuilt and strengthened, and the inhabitants were protected from further risk."

"Mr. Maddox in subsequent years told Captain Medwin, a relative of the poet and one of his biographers, that Shelley was constantly relieving the humble and necessitous, and that he would visit them in their homes, and supply them, during the bleak winter months, with food, clothes, and fuel."

Writing from Tanrallt on December 17th, 1812, Shelley says, to his publisher, "You will receive the political extracts (never published) in a day or two by the two-penny post. . . . I am also preparing a volume of minor poems, respecting whose publication I shall request your judgment, both as publisher and friend. Mrs. Shelley is attacking Latin with considerable resolution, and can already read many odes in Horace."

The first notice of the assault on Shelley appears in a letter to Mr. Hookham, in which he says, "I have just escaped an atrocious assassination. Oh, send me £20 if you have it. You will perhaps hear of me no more. Friend, Percy Shelley." On March 6th, 1813, writing from Bangor Ferry, Shelley adds, "In the first stage of our journey towards Dublin we met with your letter."

The bullets of the assassin's pistols (he fired at me twice) penetrated my nightgown and pierced the waistcoat."

The next letter, written by Shelley's wife, from 35, Cuffe-street, Stephen's Green, Dublin, and dated March 11, 1813, gives a full account of the affair. "Mr. S. promised you," she says, "a recital of the horrible events that caused us to leave Wales. I have undertaken the task, as I wish to spare him, in the present nervous state of his health, everything that can recall to his mind the horrors of that night. On Friday night, the 26th of February, we retired to bed between ten and eleven o'clock. We had been in bed about half an hour when Mr. S. heard a noise proceeding from one of the parlours. He immediately went downstairs with two pistols which he had loaded that night expecting to have occasion for them. He went into the billiard room where he heard footsteps retreating; he followed into another little room which was called an office. He there saw a man in the act of quitting the room through a glass door which opened into the shrubbery. The man then fired at Mr. S., which he avoided. Bysshe then fired, but it flashed in the pan. The man then knocked Bysshe down, and they struggled on the ground. Bysshe then fired his second pistol, which, he thought, wounded him in the shoulder, as he uttered a shriek and got up, when he said these words: 'By God, I will be revenged! I will murder your wife; I shall ravish your sister! By God, I will be revenged!' He then fled, as we were up for the night. Our servants were not gone to bed, but were just going, when this horrible affair happened. This was about eleven o'clock. We all assembled in the parlour; we were assembled for two hours. Mr. S. then advised us to retire, thinking it possible he would make a second attack. We left Bysshe and one man servant, who had

only arrived that day, and who knew nothing of the house, to sit up. I had been in bed three hours, when I heard a pistol go off. I immediately ran down stairs, when I perceived that Bysshe's flannel gown had been shot through, and the window curtain. Bysshe had sent Daniel to see what hour it was, when he heard a noise at the window. He went there, and the man thrust his arm through the glass and fired at him. They found the ball went through his gown, and he remained unhurt. Mr. S. happened to stand sideways; had he stood fronting, the ball must have killed him. Bysshe fired his pistol, but it would not go off; he then aimed a blow at him with an old sword which we found in the house. The assassin attempted to get the sword from him, and just as he was getting it away Dan. rushed into the room, when he made his escape. This was at four in the morning. It had been a most dreadful night; the wind was as loud as thunder, and the rain descended in torrents. Nothing has been heard of him; and we have every reason to believe it was no stranger, as there is a man of the name of Leeson, who, the next morning that it happened, went and told the shopkeepers of Tremadoc that it was a tale of Mr. Shelley's, to impose upon them, that he might leave the country without paying his bills. This they believed, and none of them attempted to do anything towards his discovery. We left Tanrallt on Saturday, and stayed till everything was ready for our leaving the place at the solicitor-general of the country's house, who lives 7 miles from us. This Mr. Leeson had been heard to say that he was determined to drive us out of the country. He once happened to get hold of a little pamphlet which Mr. Shelley had printed in Dublin; this he sent up to Government. In fact, he was for ever saying something against us, and that because we were determined not to admit him to our house because we had heard his character, and from many acts of his we find that he was malignant to the greatest degree and cruel." Shelley, as is known, afterwards went on the continent. Writing to Mrs. Gisborne from Florence, Mrs. Shelley says "There are some ladies come to this house who knew Shelley's family, the younger one was enthousiasmée to see me; the elder said that he was a very shocking man, but, finding that we became the mode, she melted, and paid us a visit. She is a little old Welshwoman without the slightest education. She has got an Italian master, and has entered into the difficult part of the language, the singulars and the plurals—the *ils* and the *lo's*, and has to turn masculines into feminines, and feminines into masculines; but she says she does not think she shall ever learn, for she cannot help mixing Welsh with her Italian—and besides to spoil her French. She speaks the sweetest French, as you may judge by her telling her master '*Je ne peut lire aucunc plus.*'"

W. R. H.

OSWESTRY TREES.—The correspondent who wrote on this subject a fortnight ago says:—"Many of your old Oswestry readers, at home and abroad, will be glad to hear that five of the finest trees above Oswald's Well have been saved from the ruthless hands of the Governors, by the timely interference of a few 'Old Boys,' who made up a purse and rebought the trees from the builder to whom they had been sold. Mr. G. D. Owen, who was the active agent in the matter, holds the receipt, and an assurance from the authorities that so long as the trees are not dangerous to passers by, they shall be preserved. This is so far satisfactory, but with the fate of the trees to the north of the 'Big Walk' in the churchyard before our eyes, we cannot hope that those in the School grounds are worth many years' purchase."

APRIL 3, 1878.

NOTES.

MONEY IN 1674.—Mr. Pennant in his *History of Whitford* publishes a letter from Sir Roger Mostyn to Pymers Pennant, asking for £4 due to him for a pair of Oxen, and excusing himself for thus troubling his friend, by stating that he wanted to make up £20 to send his son to Oxford. Mr. Pennant observes that "at this time (1674) money was so scarce" that £4 was the price of a pair of oxen.

NEMO.

RICHARDE STANYE THE ELDER of *Oswester*, Marcer.—Will 1540 (5 "Alenger," Prerog. Ct.: Canterbury).—To be buried in Oswestry church "in the Chapell of o'r blessed lady even against and before the Image and picture of saint Margaret the virgine. Item I will that my executours incontinent after my decease shall prepare and by a Marbill Stone graven to cover my grave wt all and that to be substantiall after an honest sort. . . . I geve and bequeth xiiij gownes in the Honour of god and the twelfe apostilles whiche gownes my will is that they be bestowed to xiiij old auncent and discrete poore men. . . . to every sonne and daughter of my loving brother John Draper xxs sterling a pece. . . . Item I will and charge my sonne David Stany and his heires. . . . that he finde observe and kepe an annall dirige or obite duringe the space of a hunderth yeres. . . . painge yerely therfor xiijs iiijd . . . to the mayntenance and reparacion of the said church of Oswester. . . . vii sterlinge. . . . my loving Cosing John price clerke and person of Whitton. . . . my weddied wife Jan verch David lloid app owen. . . . my welbeloved sonnes Thomas Staney David Staney Mr. Robert Staney (clerk and person of Sullatton) and Richard Stany the yonger. . . . Blanche my eldest daughter and wif to Master Richard Raynolde citizen of London. . . . my daughter Jane being wif to one Master Watson Citizen of London. . . . Johan my daughter being wif to Jenn lloid. . . . my daughter Elizabeth being wif to Edwarde lloid. . . . my welbeloved Neweves John Price and person of Whitton and Hughe ap John of the same towne draper. . . . in Witnes. . . . Owen app David Curat Robert Aphowel Alderman John app Thomas ap alderman Edward ap Mereotes alderman of the same towne of Oswester Richard Baker, Borges." J.C.C.S.

[Such of our readers as have preserved the interesting list of Oswestry burgesses of the 16th century, given in *Bye-gones* Mar. 23, 1877, will find in it mention of "Thomas Staney mrcer son and heyr to Rch Staney thelder"; also "Thomas Staney the youngr son and heyr to Robert Staney." The latter "clerk and person of Sullatton" is given in Brown Willis's list as "Robert Staney, rector of Selattyn, vicar of Meifod, instituted by Bishop Warton, 1537." In the list of old burgesses previously alluded to, several of the other parties to the above will are also included. The foregoing extract will also tend to confirm the opinion of the Rev. D. R. Thomas (Feb. 26, 1873) that Oswestry Church contained a chapel dedicated to St. Mary, and not merely a chancel.—ED.]

QUERIES.

THOMAS MORGAN OF CILIAU AERON.—I find in Jones's *History of Brecknockshire* that in 1608 the Rev. Henry Rogers was appointed to the vicarage of Llywel by Thomas Morgan, of Ciliau Aeron. Can any of your readers inform me of what family Mr. Morgan was, and how he (a Cardiganshire man) had the living of Llywel in his gift then, as the Bishop now has the presentation? MTFANWY.

XXXX

BRIEFS AT LLANYMYNECH.—In the Llanymynech Parish Registers, amongst numerous quaint entries, are found the following:—

"1692. 5 Feb. Collected towards ye redemption of captives four shillings and two pence."

"1699. Apr. 23. Collected towards ye relief of ye distressed protestants ye sum of one pound two shillings and four pence."

Who were the captives, and the distressed protestants? Can any one say what was the result of the efforts to liberate the former, and aid the latter? LLERTWEL.

[We should be exceedingly obliged to our correspondent for any selection from the "quaint entries" for publication in *Bye-gones*. We mean such as he may not have occasion to use in the parochial history on which he is now engaged.—ED.]

REPLIES.

DOLWYDDELAN OR DOLYDDELEN? (Mar. 20, 1878).—Upon the next Thursday before the festival of S. Lawrence, 1281, Llewelyn, Prince of Wales, Lord of Snaudun, dates a Charter from DOLUTHELAN.

The *Minister's Accounts* of the Crown for Wales begin some few years after the conquest of the Principality, before Edw. I. had created his son Prince of Wales (which he did in the year 1300, when Edward of Carnarvon was in his seventeenth year, not as most people believe, upon his birth at Carnarvon), and they extend to some time in the reign of Charles I. If your correspondent will search through them, I will challenge him to find a single instance of the place being spelt, or called, otherwise than it has hitherto been.

In the *Great Extent of North Wales, or Record of Carnarvon*, taken in 26, Edw. III. (1353), I find the ville of DOLWYTHELAN, or a spelling having the same force.

In an *original deed*, conveying the frithes of DOLWYTHELAN to John Wyn ap Meredith, of Gwydir, occurs as follows:—"This indenture made the xvijth day of may in the xxiiijth yere of the reign of our soueraign lord kyng henry the viijth between Gruff. ap lliwelyn ap Robert fermor of the frithes of dolewethelan on that one partie and John Wyn ap Meredith ap Jeuan ap Robert on tother partie witnesseth" &c. Here are authorities *somewhat* before the time of Sir John Wynn, who died in March, 1626-7, and are not vague traditions, but would hold good in a court of justice.

Upon the monument erected in Llanrwst Church to the memory of his ancestors, by Sir Richard Wynn, it is stated that "He (Meredith Wynn, who died in 1525) removed and endowed the Church of Saint Gwyddelan, during the third Tournean expedition, in the fifth year of Henry the Eighth."

If the *Cambrian News* correspondent likes to change the name of this little village as it pleases him, who has a right to object to it? We are not bound to adopt his change; but it puts me in mind of an occurrence near my own home here. There is a small hamlet, little larger than DOLWYDDELAN, called *Llwynguril*. A good friend of mine, now no more, an Englishman, always called it THIN GRUEL, and to some extent I fear that our summer visitors, to whom we are so much indebted for bringing intelligence and money into "Wild Wales," have adopted this harmless absurdity. Who shall say if the new name of DOLWYDDELAN is adopted, *Dolyddelen*, will not become DOLLY DELLEN!!

It was not from Merionethshire, but from Cesailgyfarch, in Evionedd, that Meredith Wynn removed to Nant Conway, and he was great-grandfather, not grandfather, to Sir John Wynn.

W.

4

OSWESTRY THEATRE (Feb. 27, 1878).—On the 26th Jan., 1822, the *Oswestry Herald*, in a preliminary paragraph, stated that they hoped to be in a position on the following week to give particulars as to an amateur performance "for the benefit of the Public Library," and intimated that "the scenery," Mr. Penson of Oswestry had "undertaken to paint." Accordingly, on Feb. 7, the public are informed that "Speed the Plough" and "The Wags of Windsor" will be performed on the 15th, and that the prices of admission will be, "Boxes and Pit, 5s., Gallery 2s. 6d." On Feb. 12, the same paper gave the list of amateurs who were to perform, and stated that nearly all the box seats, and many of the benches in the pit had been already taken. Nothing is said in the advertisements of the object of the performance; but so popular did the affair promise to be, that it was announced that no money would be taken at the doors; no half-price; and no admittance behind the scenes "on any pretext whatever." It was also announced that the "new scenery" would be "painted by Messrs. Brown, Penson and Eyeley." On the 19th of Feb. the *Herald* contains a report of the performance, a column and a half in length; in which some further names of performers are given, viz: those in the orchestra, (or the principal ones), as follows:—"Robt. Morrall, Esq., Mr. C. Eyeley (leader), Mr. Bourlay, Mr. G. Jones, Mr. Lewis." The report also states that "a humorous Prologue was written for the occasion, and spoken partly by the actors behind the side-scenes, and partly by Miss E. Thornhill, on the stage." This Miss Thornhill (with the other actresses) was from the Stockport Theatre, of which her father was the manager. The receipts were £76 12s. 6d. The *Oswestry Herald* does not give the text of the Prologue, or the name of the author. The *Shrewsbury Chronicle* (Feb. 15) does both; the date showing that the information was supplied to its columns beforehand. The following are the lines:—

Good Friends, kind welcome to you every one,
You long have wish'd, I fear, the play begun;
But you must know, my worthy brethren here
Are somewhat nice—'bout how they do appear.
Whether this wig fits well—that cravat right—
These buckles handsome, and those breeches tight.
One has his entrance on the O.P. side,
Another has the Prompter for his guide;
Their different attitudes they canvass now,
Here a low curtsy, there a solemn bow.
"There now you're wrong," cries one, "Thus it should be,"
"Now be attentive, and pray look at me,"
"I place my body thus, and look around."
"With humour infinite, and look profound."
"Drawl out the passage, with a long grimace,"
"And (as is usual) make an hideous face."
"Persuade the audience that it's modern wit,"
"And make my exit, lauded by the Pit."

Thus were they arguing in grave debate,
When the Manager cried "It's getting late!
Who speaks the Prologue? call boy, look around,
Do seek him what—what—not yet found?
Oh, yes, he's here—do Sir, I pray, go on,
Our friends are weary, and begin to yawn;
Be ready now—I'll ring—nay, do not fear."
Up went the curtain, and I ventured here.

But stay, I've talked at such a monstrous rate,
That I've forgot—alas—oh! my poor pate!
Why, bless me, I was loaded with commissions,
Shap'd into suits, favours, and petitions,
Each Actor had a boon to beg of you,
And I've forgotten all—what shall I do?
Do! oh, I have it! I'll return straightway,
And till then what I'm sure you'd have me say,
That to our inexperience you'll be kind,
Alive to merit, and to errors blind;

That, judging of our acting by our cause,
You'll give to each, as each deserve, applause;
Bestowing that, which much is wanted now—
Encouragement and aid to *Speed the Plough*.

When this was published on Feb. 15, it was not stated who was the author; and whether it was known to the audience the same evening (when the performance took place) I am not informed; but on the following week the *Chronicle* stated that it was written by W. Ormsby Gore, Esq.

My reply is already rather longer than usual for *Bye-gones*, so I must reserve further particulars for another week; including something concerning the actors engaged.
JARCO.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Hon. and Rev. W. T. Kenyon, of Malpas, has published a volume of poems under the title of "Drifting and other Poems."

A remarkable instance occurred the other day at Wentnor of the survival of the superstitious belief in the efficacy of charms, once so prevalent. A little boy was terribly burnt while left alone in the kitchen by his mother. It was stated at the inquest that after linseed oil had been applied to the burns, the father got a neighbour to stay in the house while he went to Bishop's Castle to a man named John Evans, to "come and charm the child," as he (the father) believed in charms. Evans returned with the father and saw the child. The neighbour, however, whom he had called in, had sense enough to advise that a doctor should be sent for. When the doctor came he gave no hope of the child's recovery, and it died two days afterwards.

The London Welsh Charity School, which was founded at the beginning of the last century for the education of Welsh children born within ten miles of the Royal Exchange, who were unable to obtain admission to the parochial schools because they had not acquired a parochial settlement, has recently attracted notice by its unsatisfactory condition. Twenty years ago the number of children in the school reached 200, and the property was worth from £80,000 to £90,000. At present the Welsh children have decreased to 73 or 74, and the capital has been reduced by "selling out" in order to eke out a diminished income. The managers had admitted into the school seventy orphans of the English Agricultural Society, and it is alleged that many of the children recently admitted are not proper objects of charity. A committee of the Society of Ancient Britons has been appointed to investigate the subject.

MISS JACKSON'S SHROPSHIRE GLOSSARY. — We are pleased to be able to state that the first section of this work—which includes A to D—is now ready for the press, if not actually in the hands of the printers. The part will include upwards of a thousand words.

CHESTER ASSIZES, APRIL 2.

REMARKABLE FISHERY CASE.—LADY WILLOUGHBY D'ERESBY
V. JOSEPH EVANS.

Mr. M'Intyre, Q.C., with Mr. Coxon (instructed by Travers, Smith and Co., London), for the plaintiff; Mr. Herschell, Q.C., M.P., with Mr. Morgan Lloyd, Q.C., M.P. (instructed by Mr. Griffith, of Llanrwst), for the defendant.

In this case Lady Willoughby D'Eresby was the plaintiff, and Mr. Joseph Evans, who lives at a place called Plasmadoc, was the defendant, and the action was brought to establish the right of Lady Willoughby to "a separate

fishery" in the river Conway. According to the pleadings this fishery was granted by James I. to the predecessors of Lady Willoughby. The ancient fishery seemed to have existed from all time, and "the memory of man runneth not to the contrary," said Mr. McIntyre. The first evidence they had of the fishery was in the minister's accounts of the reign of King Edward III., which mentioned this fishery in the Conway, and showed that it was let out in parcels and an amount of rent paid in respect of it by those who were mentioned in the minister's returns, and from that time it continued to be vested in the Crown. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1581, this fishery was mentioned as a grant from the Crown to Sir Robert Wood, "late mayor of the city of Norwich," for 21 years. Before that term ran out there was a further grant from the Crown, commencing at the termination of the 21 years, to Peter Causton. In the seventh year of the reign of King James I., the Crown granted the fishery to Edward Ferriers and Sir Francis Phillips "and their heirs and assigns for ever." From that time the fishery was out of the Crown and vested in those gentlemen and their assigns. After that it came into the possession of Sir John Wynne, and there was after his death, in 1638, an account or inquisition held by the Crown to find what he died possessed of, and it was found that he was the owner of this fishery of the Conway among other things. Through Sir John Wynne the fishery of the estate of Gwydir came into the possession of the family which was now represented by the plaintiff, by marriage of one of the Wynne's with a Willoughby, who was ultimately the Marquis of Lindsay, and was now represented by Lady Willoughby d'Eresby. The fishery had been in the possession of the Willoughby family from that time to the present. The family of Lord Willoughby d'Eresby had always enjoyed the sole right of the fishing in the Conway river, and they had always exercised their right on both banks of the river from that time down to the present. It would, said Mr. McIntyre, be an important thing for the jury to consider, who was the successor of a Mr. Beaver Roberts, who was the owner of the Plas Madoc estate. Of course persons who held a fishery in a river where they did not hold the land on both sides were liable at times to have disputes with various people whose lands abutted on the river, should they think they had a right to fish in the river abutting on their land. Having explained that a "several fishery" meant an exclusive right of fishing in the water to the exclusion of any other person, whether that person's land abutted on the water or whether he claimed by any title, the learned counsel for the plaintiff said they should establish most completely that the defendants were stopped from denying that that was "a several fishery" and that the right of it was vested in Lady Willoughby. The defence was that the plaintiff had not a "several right of fishery" in the river, and that even if she had, it did not destroy the right of the defendant to fish there with rod and line. The case occupied the Court the whole day, and the hearing of it was adjourned.—It was concluded on Wednesday. After hearing the evidence of some of the "oldest inhabitants" in Carnarvonshire, the jury found that the plaintiff had established her right to an "exclusive" fishery in the Conway, subject to the defendant's prescriptive right to fish with rod and line. Judgment was ordered to be entered accordingly—for the defendant upon the tenth paragraph of his statement of defence (a right to fish with rod and line from the banks of his own estate), and for the plaintiff upon the remainder of the claim.

APRIL 10, 1878.

NOTES.

WELSH NOTES FROM AMERICA.—A Welsh gentleman residing in the United States of America, and who has collected together much information about Welsh people in America, told me a short time since the following facts, which may interest some of the readers of *Bye-gones*:—

(1). There were thirteen Welshmen who signed the Declaration of Independence, of whom two were native born. He has in his possession a short biography of one of them named Robert Morris.

(2). He has in his possession a Welsh Concordance published by Enoch Morgan at Philadelphia on the 17th February, 1724, which was republished in 1734 by John Cadwaladr.

(3). He has also a copy of the first Welsh Magazine published in America, called "Y Cyfaill o'r Hen Wlad yn America," published in 1838, edited by Wm. Rowlands.

M.

WELSH AND BORDER PRESS.—*Caermarthen*. (March 6, 1878).—SAMUEL LEWIS, our next *Caermarthen* printer, had a short career, there being only seven books known to have issued from his press in the years 1744-5.

EVAN POWELL printed various books from 1757 to 1764, in some of which his name is associated with, perhaps a brother, Dav. Powell.

RHYS THOMAS started a rival press about 1760, and carried it on himself till 1763, in which year he seems to have taken into partnership John Ross, who had, as before stated, recently arrived from London. Probably Ross' ideas of business, imbibed amid the busier scenes of metropolitan life, did not suit his more old-fashioned partner, the result being that they soon parted company. Ross, having obtained from London a large quantity of new type, together with a real printing press, constructed there by a clever and noted artisan, and also having provided an editor for his Welsh work, soon drove his competitors out of the field. What became of Evan Powell remains to be discovered; but Rhys Thomas is found printing at Llandovery from 1764 to 1771, and from the latter year till 1781 at Cowbridge.

For about twenty years John Ross appears to have had the *Caermarthen* trade to himself till in 1783 JOHN DANIEL, a former apprentice, after visiting London, where he was employed by the King's printers, returned to *Caermarthen*, and began to print on his own account. In 1810 he established the *Caermarthen Journal*, and died Jan. 10th, 1823, aged 68.

JOHN EVANS, who commenced about 1797, is the only other *Caermarthen* printer previous to 1800, after which I take up no new name for enquiry.

The particulars for this and former notes are principally taken from *Rowlands's Llyfrddieth y Cymry*, edited by Mr. Silvan Evans. Should any reader of *Bye-gones*, in prosecuting other enquiries, come across a notice of the birth, apprenticeship, marriage, death, or other particulars of a Welsh or Border printer, let me entreat him to at once follow Capt. Cuttle's advice, and make a note of it for the columns of *Bye-gones*.

W. H. ALLNUTT.

Oxford.

QUERIES.

RUYTON CASTLE.—Did Ruyton-of-the-Eleven-Towns, Salop, ever possess a Castle? The only mention of one, I can find, in print, is from a very doubtful source, viz., *Hulbert's Salopian Magazine*. On p. 72,

v. 3, "J. Darrsford" writes, in Feb. 1817, "The castle is the property of Mr. Glover, but we lament to say that there are very few remains of this noble and ancient structure." It was one of these "remains," I suppose, that Mr. Darrsford professed afterwards to find in the shape of "an ancient vase supposed to be Grecian," and which he imposed on the credulity of Mr. Hulbert! (See *Byegones*, Mar. 19, July 9, 1873). C.O.I.

MORGAN AP RHYS.—Who can tell us anything about a famous harper of this name who once dwelt in Merionethshire? Morgan is said once upon a time to have played a tune for the fairies to dance to, and in return to have been presented with a fairy harp. This proved a rather dangerous instrument, for when its strings were touched everybody danced so energetically that furniture was smashed and crowns broken against the rafters of the kitchens. At last the "Ellyllon" carried off the harp again, and peace was restored. TAFFY.

REPLIES.

EDWARD BURY OF BOLAS (March 13, 1878.)

In Walker's *Sufferings of the Clergy*, p. 310, the following entry occurs, namely:—

SALOP. MARTIN, ISAAC. Bolas, R.
He was turned out for Refusing the *Covenant*, and succeeded by one *Bury* a Taylor.

Watt's *Bibliotheca Britannica* contains the following titles of three works by Edward Bury, but whether he was the same person as the above-named, I have no means of knowing.

A Guide to Glory, or Directions how to Walk with God. Lond. 1675, 8vo.

The Deadly Danger of Drunkenness. Lond. 1671, 8vo.

The Husbandman's Companion, or a hundred directions suited to men of that employment. Lond. 1677, 8vo.

LLALLAW.

An interesting account of Mr. Edward Bury of Great Bolas, Shropshire, will be found in Calamy's *Non-conformists' Memorial*, by Palmer, Vol. 3, pp. 140-3. We are there told that he was of Oxford University, and was born in Worcestershire in 1616:—

By the advice of Dr. Grew and Mr. Brian he spent several years at the great school at Coventry, under the care of the famous Mr. White, and afterwards ordained upon good testimonials of his qualifications; so that Walker's reflections upon him appear groundless.

Besides the "Soul's Looking Glass," mentioned by "J.P.E.," Mr. Bury wrote "An Help to Holy Walking," "The Husbandman's Companion," "England's Bane," "A Sovereign Antidote," "Death Improved," "A Small Book of Relative Duties," and "A Short Catechism." In the *Life of Philip Henry*, there is an interesting passage concerning Mr. Bury and Mr. Henry. We are told:—

In the beginning of the year 1681, in April and May, the country was greatly afflicted and affected by an extreme drought; there was no rain for several weeks, the grass failed. Corn, that was sown, languished; and much, that was intended to be sown, could not. The like had not been known for many years.

On May 23, that year, Mr. John Maldon, who had been ejected from Newport by the Act of Uniformity, died at Alkinton, near Whitchurch; and "several serious thinking people" at his funeral thought "how requisite it was that there should be some time set apart for fasting and prayer, in a solemn assembly" on account of the drought. Accordingly a meeting was arranged to be held at the house of Thomas Millington of Weston, in Hodnet parish, on Tuesday, June 14:—

The drought continuing in extremity, some that had not used to come to such meetings, yet came thither upon the apprehensions they had of the threatening judgment, which the country was under. Mr. *Edward Bury of Bolas*, well known by several useful works he hath published, prayed; Mr. Henry prayed, and preached on Psalm lvi. 18.

When Mr. Henry was in the midst of his sermon Sir Thomas Vernon of Hodnet, and Mr. Charles Mainwaring of Ightfield, two justices, with their retinue, appeared on the scene, "swearing, cursing, and reviling bitterly."

Mr. Henry hath noted, in the account he kept of this event, that the justices came to this good work from the ale-house upon Preses Heath, about two miles off, to which, and the Bowling-green adjoining, they, with other justices, gentlemen, and clergymen of the neighbourhood, had long before obliged themselves to come every Tuesday, during the summer time, under a penalty of twelve-pence a time if they were absent, and there to spend the day in drinking and bowling.

Philip Henry's reason for noting this fact seems to have been to remark that such conduct "was thought to be as direct a violation of the law of the land,"—viz., the statute of 33rd Hen. 8, cap. 9, "for debarring unlawful games"—as their meeting at Millington's house was a violation of the statute of 22nd Car. 2., "and much more to the dishonour of God!"

Two days after they (the justices) met at Hodnet, where, upon the oath of two witnesses . . . they signed and sealed two records of conviction. By one record, they convicted the master of the house, and fined him £20, and £5 more as constable of the town that year; and, with him, all the persons present, whose names they had taken, and fined them 5s. a piece, and issued out warrants accordingly. By another record, they convicted the two ministers *Mr. Bury*, and Mr. Henry.

The fine inflicted on Bury was £20, although he had only prayed, the magistrates holding that "praying was teaching." Not only was Mr. Edward Bury a loved friend of Philip Henry; his son, Mr. Samuel Bury (who became a minister at Bristol) was also a friend of Mathew Henry. Mr. Bury, sen., died May 5, 1700. PURITAN.

EVANS THE BELLMAN. (Mar. 20, 1878.)—I remember Evans well. He looked more fitted to be an alderman than a bellman; and had a fine presence and splendid voice. About Christmas time he was in the habit of ringing his bell at an early hour before the houses of some of his patrons, and singing snatches of doggerel of his own composing. I remember one as follows:—

Young maids arise
And make your mince pies,
And when you have done
Call in the old Bellman
And let him have some!

For some time, I believe, he led the singing in the Old Church. L.

Although it has nothing to do with the bellman in question, it may interest Oswestry readers to know that we (or rather our ancestors) had a bellman in 1732 whose name was Edward Buttry, and who lived in Willow-street, in that age and earlier sometimes spelt, in the parish registers, "Woolliow" street. JARCO.

A tale used to be told of Evans, that has very likely been told of many others of his profession, viz.:—that on one occasion when asked to proclaim some articles for sale, he replied, "I can't cry to-day, my wife's dead!" The portrait your correspondent refers to is an excellent one, and I am glad to find it in the hands of the editor of *Bye-gones*, and so will have a chance of being preserved. OLD OSWESTRY.

In reply to OSWALD, I may say that old Mr. Evans, bellman, was a tailor by trade, but held the office of town crier for many years. He possessed a voice of

remarkable clearness and power. A commercial traveller, passing through the Cross one day, stood to listen to him, and afterwards declared to me he had never heard even an approach to him. In closing with "God save the King," he did so very calmly, reverently; he did not mumble it to himself as I have heard since. He was a great favourite with young children (always a sign of some goodness in a man). He had a very stately walk, and truly magnified his office. Mr. Evans, on the Sabbath, gave out the psalms and hymns, and led the singing in the Old Church, always commencing with "Let us sing to the praise and glory of God." Few men in his station were more respected than old Mr. Evans, Bellman. Preston. W. HODGES.

APRIL 17, 1878.

NOTES.

HEREFORDSHIRE CIDER.—Gerard, the Cheshire herbalist, writing, in 1597, of apple trees and their fruit, has the following quaint particulars:—

Kent doth abound with apples of most sortes. But I haue seen in the pastures and hedge rowes about the grounds of a worshipfull Gentleman dwelling two miles from Hereford, called M. Roger Bodnomo, so many trees of all sortes, that the seruants drinke for the most part no other drinke, but that which is made of apples. The quantitie is such that, by the report of the Gentleman himselfe, the Parson bathfor tithie many hogs-heads of Syder. The hogs are fed with the fallings of them, which are so many, that they make choise of those apples they do eate, who will not taste of any but of the best. An example doubtlesse to be followed of Gentlemen that haue land and liuing: (but enue saith, the poore will breake downe our hedges, and we shall haue the least part of the fruit),—but forward in the name of God, graffe, set, plant, and nourish up trees in euery corner of your grounds; the labour is small, the cost is nothing, the commoditie is great, your selues shall haue plentie, the poore shall haue somewhat in time of want to relieue their necessitie, and God shall reward your good mindes and diligence.

I take it, this Master Roger Bodnam was the Roger Bodenham of Rotherwas, who was born in 1545, and was created a Knight of the Bath at the coronation of James I. Of this worthy Knight and his then residence of venerable oak! Blount, in his "MS. Collections for Herefordshire," has embalmed this lively bit of description:—

ROTHERWAS: This is a delicious seat, situate near the river Wye, and within two myles of Hereford, abounding with store of excellent fruit, and fertile arable land; having also a park within less than half a myle of the house, where there is a neat lodge upon a hill which overlooks the whole country adjacent. It was held so delightful a place that the proverb was current, as anciently of Corinth—

"Non datur cuius adire Rotherwas."

"It is not given to every one to dwell at Rotherwas."

The house is partly of old tymbre work; but an end of it was new built of stone in the last age by Sir Roger, where there is a fair parlour full of arms, according to the fashion of that age; and over that a noble dyning room, wainscoted with walnut tree, and on the mantle tree of the chimney 25 coats in one atchievement, with this motto, *Veritas libertabit*. Even the long table within the hall is inlaid with coats of arms.

The old house was, I understand, pulled 'down [towards the middle of last century, and a new mansion of red brick substituted. In the hall of this new structure the "25 coats in one atchievement" are yet to be seen, and several other ornaments of the older house are likewise preserved in the new. I wonder if the apples and the "syder" are still as plentiful and tasty as they manifested were in old Gerard's day!

T. HUGHES.

Chester.

CHESHIRE NOTES.—In Burnet's voluminous but interesting *History of the Reformation*, I came across some notes relating to Cheshire which possess an interest to many readers, and for convenience I have put them under separate heads, thus:—

Bishop Bonner, believed to be the bastard son of one Savage, a Priest settled in Leicestershire, who was himself the bastard of Sir John Savage of Cheshire. Elizabeth Frodsham (a Cheshire name) was the Bishop's mother, and mother also of one Wymsey, Archdeacon of London, who was base born. She was afterwards married to one Edmund Bonner, and the Bishop ever after went by his name; he had himself several bastards.

George Marsh, the unhappy Priest who was burnt at Chester on the 24th April, 1555, having embraced the new faith. "There was a new invention of cruelty" got up for his punishment—"a firkin of pitch was hung over his head, that the fire melting it, it might scald his head as it dropt on it!"

The See of Chester.—This is not mentioned in the list of new sees which Henry the 8th named upon a list seen by Burnet, but the Bishop adds, "I wonder much that in this list *Chester* was forgotten, yet it was created before any of them, for I have seen a commission under the Privy Seal to the Bishop of Chester to take the surrender of the Monastery of *Hamond*, in Shropshire, bearing date the 24th of August that year (1539, I presume), so that it seems the see of *Chester* was created and endowed before the Act passed, though there is among the rolls a charter for endowing and founding of it afterwards."

CESTRIAN.

QUERIES.

MR. EVANS OF LLWYNYGROES.—In May, 1802, the "Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce," adjudged the sum of Forty-five guineas to Dr. John Evans, of Shrewsbury, son of the late Mr. Evans, of Llwynygroes, "in consideration of the merits of his two maps of North Wales." I always thought that it was the father whose maps were so famous. Who and what was the son, and in what did his maps excel?

TELL.

CARNARVON CHAPEL.—In Feb. 1802 an advertisement appeared in some of the local papers, addressed to builders, and signed by Mr. Owen Anthony Poole, at Carnarvon, stating that

The Trustees appointed for putting into execution an Act passed in the fortieth year of the reign of His Majesty King George the Third, entitled "An Act for taking down, and rebuilding upon a more enlarged scale, the Chapel of St. Mary, in the town of Carnarvon;" do hereby give notice, &c., &c.

And here follows the information required by builders and contractors in order to enable them to tender. What was this chapel, and why was an Act of Parliament required to abolish and set it up again?

G.G.

REPLIES.

MR. ROBERT COTTON (Mar. 27, 1878).—Mr. Robert Cotton was the elder brother of the Field-Marshal. He died young as an officer in the Guards. His picture, in uniform, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, is in the possession of Reginald Corbet, Esq., of Adderley, having belonged to Lady Corbet, who was Miss Cotton, aunt to this Mr. Robert Cotton. M.K.

"Sir Robert Salusbury Cotton, Lord Combermere's father, took his degree at Cambridge, and married, in 1767, Frances, daughter and heiress of Colonel Stapleton,

uncle to Sir Thomas Stapleton, afterwards Lord Le Despencer. Sir Robert represented the county of Cheshire, in the Tory interest, for thirty years. *His eldest son, Robert, born in 1768, died in 1799, of an inflammatory attack, brought on by exposure in an open boat at Weymouth*" (see *Life of Lord Combermere*, vol 1, p. 15). Mr. Robert Cotton was therefore the elder brother of the great soldier.

READER.

OSWESTRY THEATRE (Apr. 3, 1878).—I have a copy of the *Oswestry Herald* of Feb. 12, 1822, which contains an advertisement of the Amateur Theatricals, and list of performers. In it there is—where your correspondent gives "Mr. Onions," "Mr. O. N. Jons." In this list C. Jones, Williams, O. N. Jons, and Wynn, are given as plain Mist'ers; Dovaston, Thorndike, Faunce, Salisbury, and Yates, as Esquires. The younger Faunce is described as "Master Faunce," so I presume he was but a boy.

FITZALAN.

Mr. C. Jones was "Charles Jones, The Critic," so called, I think, because he wrote the theatrical criticisms in Mr. Cathrall's *Oswestry Herald*, published 1820-2. He was by profession a Surveyor. His father was a contractor for some portion of the building of the House of Industry. Masters Faunce were sons of Col. Faunce who lived at Trefalgar Cottage, Pentreshanel. The colonel, I believe, came into some property in Kent and left our district in order to reside there. Capt. Thorndike married Colonel Faunce's daughter, and afterwards went to Canada.

BEN STARCH.

Mr. D. Thorndike was an officer in the Royal Artillery; son in law of Col. Faunce, who lived at Trefalgar Cottage. He died at Bath within the last two years, as General Thorndike. Mr. T. Yates lived at Mount Sion, now Oakhurst. He was one of the best of the actors. Mr. Williams was the late Edw. Williams, Esq., of Lloran House. The Faunces were sons of Col. Faunce.

F.

THE CASE IS ALTERED QUOTH PLOWDEN. (Jan. 23, 1878).—Mr. MACKENZIE WALCOTT gives the following origin of this Shropshire saying, in *Eddowes's Journal* of Mar. 20, 1878 :—

"A tenant went to Plowden and with a sorrowful countenance and many awkward bows and cringes, thus opened his business : 'Sir, an't please your worship, my bull has gored and killed one of your worship's oxen ; I beg to know what I must do in this case ?' 'Why, surely, pay the value of the ox,' answered Plowden, 'that is both law and equity.' 'Very well, sir,' answered the farmer, 'but I have made a little mistake in the matter, it was your worship's bull that killed my ox.' 'Oh, is it so ? then the case is altered,' quoth Plowden.

Your readers will doubtless have heard this story told in a variety of ways and applied to a variety of persons ; perhaps some of them will remember an Oswestry version that is not bad. A lawyer lived in Lower and a butcher in Upper Brook-street, and one day the latter went to the former and said, "A dog has carried away a leg of mutton from my shop this morning ; is its owner responsible for the damage ?" "Certainly," replied the lawyer. "Then," said the other, "the dog belonged to you !" "How much was the leg worth?" asked the lawyer. To which the butcher replied, "four-and-six." "Then I will trouble you to hand me two and two-pence," said the lawyer, "my fee for advising you is six and-eight pence."

JARCO.

NASH POINT (Feb. 6, 1878).—In *The Cambrian* newspaper, bearing date June, 1832, I observe this is called Nass Point.

ANON.

DYVRDWY (Jan. 16, 1878).—Far be it from me to offer even an opinion on the question this word suggests to readers of *Bye-gones*. All I want to do is to add another poet to the list—from Spencer down to Tennyson, who have written on *The Dee*. Here he is :—

Had I been U,
And in the Q,
As easy might I B ;
I'd let U C
Whilst sipping T,
Far better lines on D.

Who he is I know not. I find the lines on the same page as some by Drayton, in a book on Wales, by T. Turner, Esq., of Gloucester, who had his tour privately printed, and adorned it with his portrait.

TAFKY.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

SECOND SERIES.

ABEL, JOHN, a celebrated architect, who died in the year 1694, is said to have been born upon the borders, but within the county of Hereford, in 1597. He is reported to have rendered great service to the city of Hereford during the siege in 1645, and the market houses of Hereford, Leominster, and Weobly were all built under his superintendence. His remains were interred in the churchyard of Sarnesfield, in his native county, and over his grave is placed a stone designed and sculptured by himself, displaying his own effigy kneeling with those of his two wives, together with the emblems of his profession—the rule, compass, and square.

ADAMS, RICHARD, born at Chester in 1666, was on his mother's side a descendant of the poet Parnell. He was educated for the law, and in the year 1700 was chosen Town Clerk of his native city, in succession to Mr. Comberbach, whose sister Dorothy he had married. Mr. Adams filled this respectable office with commendable care for twelve years, to the entire satisfaction of the Corporation and the public, and, according to tradition, he was eminent as a lawyer. A son of his, James, was rector of Bebbington, Cheshire, from 1739 to 1753, and his daughter Jane married Mr. Benjamin Perryn, of Flint, and became mother of Sir Richard Perryn, a Baron of the Exchequer, and Vice-Chamberlain of Chester.

ADAMS, WILLIAM, was born at Newport, in the county of Salop, and proceeding to London, he made a considerable fortune in trade. In 1657 he gave to the Haberdashers' Company the manor of Knighton, comprehending about nine hundred acres, directing that the rental should be appropriated by it, to the support of a free grammar school in his native town. He also founded some almshouses there with a weekly allowance to the occupants, and at his own expense built a market hall for the use of the public.

ALBRIGHT, JOHN, a native of Shropshire, was born about the year 1558. He proceeded to Cambridge for his education, where in 1579 he obtained his B.A. degree. In three years afterwards we meet with him as a Minor Canon at the Chester Cathedral ; and in 1588 proceeding to his M.A. at Cambridge. He was appointed head master of the Chester King School in 1591, but upon a citation being served upon him to appear before commissioners at York for libelling Archdeacon Rogers, he, in 1594, fled to Ireland, and next year was instituted a Vicar Choral of Christ Church, Dublin ; Dean's Vicar in 1600, and in the same year a Prebendary of St. Michael's, in the same city. His good fortune did not desert him in

the sister isle, for in 1603 he was made Dean of Raphoe, in possession of which dignity he died, in or about the year 1609.

ALCOCKE, THOMAS, a native of Shropshire, in 1627, founded a school at Donnington, in the parish of Wroxeter, in that county, where forty boys had a free education and the benefit of two exhibitions to Christ Church, Oxford, founded by Edward Careswell in 1680, and of whom due notice is taken in another place. The appointment of the headmaster of this school is vested in the Duke of Cleveland. Donnington school has been the loving mother to many a boy, whose name has added fair lustre to the local annals of Salop.

ALDERSEY, JOHN, a very worthy Cheshire-man, and a descendant of an old family in that county, did an act in 1643 which may be accounted honourable by some, but the reverse by others. He and Mr. Ravenscroft had charge of Hawarden Castle in that year, and probably was commissioned to that service from a conviction that he was true and loyal to the Crown. It is recorded, however, that when Sir William Brereton summoned the garrison to surrender, he "opened the Castle gates, and received Sir William and his party very joyfully." This event was serious to Chester, for it gave the Parliament a strong footing in that neighbourhood, and enabled its supporters to prevent the people from carrying coals and provisions to the inhabitants of Chester.

ALDERSEY, THOMAS, a Cheshire man born, having gone to London, and made a fortune therein trade, formed a scheme for a new foundation of a school and ecclesiastical establishment at Bunbury, in his native county. Having purchased the revenues of the existing College then vested in the Crown, he raised the sum of £130 per annum, by letting the tolls of Ridley and other townships upon very long leases, and this sum he apportioned to support a schoolmaster, usher, and preacher at the place already named. His scheme had the double advantage of securing the great object of his heart, and of settling a reversionary interest in the benefaction.

ALLAN, JOHN, a native of Hereford, must ever be held in esteem as a gentleman who had made a most remarkable collection of relics, manuscripts, and books relating to Herefordshire. In 1821 he published a work called "Bibliotheca Herefordiensis," but the edition was confined to twenty-five copies only, and most of these were deposited in public libraries. That one record of his goodness, and of the warm interest he took in literature and art, is an enduring memorial to his worth, but he wrote and printed other works, and his MS. notes upon local subjects evince such an intimate knowledge of facts, as to secure for him a first place among Herefordshire antiquaries.

ALGOOD, EDWARD, son of Thomas Algood, of Pontypool, in Monmouthshire, where he is supposed to have been born about 1665, may justly be classed among the benefactors of his race. His father had spent years in the invention of a method of lacquering iron plates, but was unable to perfect his discoveries. The son, who had been brought up under his father's eye, found that some persons at Woburn, in Bedfordshire, had a secret of their own that might be usefully employed in the Pontypool process, and he repaired to that place in the disguise of a beggar, obtained access to the workshops, and there acquired the art of making the ley—the ingredient lacking—which enabled him to perfect the plan of Japanning iron. For many years after this the Algoods of Pontypool carried on an extensive business in "Japan wares," and the last of the family engaged in the business died in 1848, and with her the secrets of the trade.

ALPORT, RICHARD, a native of Chester, and Lord of the Manor of Overton in 1644, is named among the many benefactors who did substantial service to the poor of Cheshire. He left in his will a sum of money for the establishment of a school at Malpas, another sum to the Blue Coat School at Chester, and £40 per annum to the Curate of Malpas. He died in 1723. "Dick Alport" was not only generous, but, according to one writer, "a genius," a capital minor poet, or as he would now be called *versifier*, a fair scholar, and being quick at repartee, he was altogether a person of mark, and very deserving of honourable mention among Cestrian worthies.

ALSAGER, JUDITH, a native of Alsager parish in Cheshire, who died in 1795, must be mentioned with admiration, for in conjunction with her sister she appropriated her estate at her death for good and charitable purposes. Twenty old women for all time took a share of her benefaction, sick persons in distress the same, and above all, poor lame boys, who without her help must have passed into indigency, but who with it were able to partake of the blessings of education, and to be put into the way of earning their own livelihood.

ALSAGER, MARY, sister of the above, a native of Alsager in Cheshire, at her death left her own estate, and a property that had been devised to her by her sister for her own life in trust for charitable purposes. The trustees were directed to use the rents for the benefit of the poor, maimed, and sick. When these properties came to be administered, it was found that upwards of three thousand pounds was available for the objects named in her will. Strange it is to relate that she died in the same year as her sister, 1795.

ALSTON, HENRY DE, supposed to have been born in the village of that name in Shropshire, was in 1355 chosen twenty-first Abbot of the Shrewsbury Abbey. There are no particular incidents in his life, mentioned by Blakeway, but he appears to have died in 1361, when the Prior and Convent had to proceed to a new election. His position, however, justifies us in bringing his name into these lists, for when Abbots reigned supreme, they were a power in England.

ALVASTON, RICHARD, a very worthy Cheshire man, who in 1285, gave to the poor of Beam-Heath, in that county, a quantity of common land "to the men of the whole community of the town of Wich Malbank to be for ever free common and pasture for all, and all manner of cattle." According to the grant, this common was not to be enclosed, but was for ever to be open, but in 1803, an Act of Parliament was passed to set aside this last part of the donor's intentions. The public good undoubtedly should be the primary consideration when dealing with a question of this sort, and it may be admitted that the changes which have taken place, in the character of the people, and the conditions upon which real property is held in this country justify an equitable interference with the declared will of donors, but Parliament should be careful not to permit this, without the very best proofs, that the "public good" has been the sole motive influencing the promoters of semi private Bills, it having been shown in many notable instances how the convenience and profit of surrounding landowners, have had something to do with the progress of such measures through the Senate.

AMERYE, ROBERT, who was Sheriff of Chester in 1608 is a local worthy named in Hemingway's History, who "at his own cost" caused three silver cups of good value to be made, the which silver cups were upon St. George's Day for ever to be ran for on the Roodee at Chester. He also caused the jacks or boyes which strike

quarterly at St. Peter's, at High Crosse, to be made and erected in A.D. 1612, and he further appears to have had a considerable hand in seeing that Randall Higden's Whitsun Playes should be duly performed in his native city. It was looked upon as a thing honourable to Mr. Amerye that he should have identified himself so thoroughly with the "sports and pastimes" of his day, and in his praise the following verse was sung—

Amor is love, and courage is his name
That did begin this pompe and pryncely game
The charge is great to him that all began
Who now is satisfied to see all so well done.

ANTROBUS, PHILIP, who was born at Kent Green, near Congleton, in Cheshire, in the year 1667, has the reputation of being a most excellent person, kind, charitable, and pious, and for his time a great improver of land, being a studious and advanced agriculturist, and in that way a benefactor to his country. He died in 1749, leaving a son of the same name who appears to have been Mayor of Congleton in 1764, 1772, and 1780.

ARMISTEAD, WILLIAM, son of the Rev. Thomas Armistead, was born in Chester, in 1796, and received his education first at the King's School, in that city, and then at Ruthin, and Manchester. He afterwards proceeded to Oxford, where, in 1820, he graduated B.A., and in 1823 M.A. Having taken holy orders he served at St. John's, Chester, Cockerham, and West Kirby. He died in 1863, and is buried at Chester.

ARMITAGE, WILLIAM, son of William and Anne Armitage, was born in Monmouthshire in 1692, and having been educated for the Nonconformist ministry he went out to America in 1725, and was for some years resident in the New England states, where he is supposed to have married. He wrote out an account of the state of religion in that country, which came into the possession of the Rev. Henry Parry, vicar of Llanassa, in Flintshire, but it does not appear to have been published. He returned to England in 1750, and died in London shortly afterwards.

ASHBRIDGE, ELIZABETH, was born in Middlewich, Cheshire, 1713, her father being a surgeon in that town. She married probably when very young, and suffered considerable privation. In 1732 she went out to America, where she again made a foolish love match, and after leading a silly life for some time in that country she became a Quaker, and afterwards a thoroughly useful and honoured member of that society. She died in 1755, and in 1820 "some account of the life of Elizabeth Ashbridge" was published by Christopher Benthams, Eustace-street, Dublin.

ASSHETON, THOMAS, a native of Ashley, in Cheshire, presided over a meeting of gentlemen who had met at his ancient home in that county, during the rebellion of the Pretender, to consider the expediency of their joining his standard. After a long debate Mr. Assheton gave his casting vote in favour of the reigning Monarch, and his personal influence in the district seriously affected the cause of the Pretender in Cheshire. It is remarkable that the portraits of all the gentlemen who had thus met at Ashley were painted and placed in a room in that house, they all bear the date of 1720, but the name of the artist is unknown.

ASTLEY, FRANCIS DUCKENFIELD, of Duckenfield Lodge, Cheshire, and a native of that county, did great service by publishing, in 1807, "Hints to Planters," a small work admirably adapted for the use of gentlemen who are disposed to improve their estates by planting suit-

able forest trees. Mr. Astley says that "in no case is a soil recommended as appropriate to any tree without an observation having been made upon the progress that particular soil has produced."

ASTON, SIR ROGER, was the natural son of John Aston, of Aston, in Cheshire, and was born in that county. He was taken when a child to Scotland, and brought up there, and having managed to connect himself in some way with the Court he came over to England with King James, as groom of the bed chamber. He was afterwards knighted, and made Master of the Great Wardrobe. Aston had been employed by Cecil to furnish him with reports from the Scottish Court, for about twenty years before the death of Elizabeth, and there is evidence to show that he was a person of great ability and of a quick apprehension. He died 1612.

ATCHERLEY, DAVID FRANCIS, was born at Chester in the year 1783, being the son of David Francis Jones, who practiced in that city as a solicitor. He was educated for the Bar, and acquired distinction in his profession. He filled the dignified office of Recorder of Chester from 1814 to 1820. He attained the rank of Sergeant-at-law with a patent of precedence, and became Attorney-General of the county palatine of Lancaster and of Durham. In 1834 he assumed the name of Atcherley upon the death of his natural uncle, Richard Atcherley, of Morton, in Shropshire, but he was best known by his old name of Jones, having evinced in his early years, a strong attachment to the cause of civil and religious liberty, and had become famous as the fearless advocate of his principles.

AUDELEY, JOHN, who is named in some works as "The Shropshire Poet," was a godly monk who lived at the commencement of the fifteenth century. In 1844 the Percy Society published a small volume of his poems as a specimen of the Shropshire dialect of the fifteenth century. The late Thomas Wright had intended publishing an account of his life, but how far he proceeded in that needful work, before his death, is not known.

AYRTON, WILLIAM FRANCIS, was born at Chester in the year 1807, and having been educated for an artist, he displayed much talent in drawing, but being colour blind he was not likely to do much as a painter. He was not himself conscious of this failing, but upon one occasion he had drawn a most exquisite animal upon canvas, but had painted in with a green in place of a grey colour, and was quite astonished when a friend pointed this out to him. This laughable, but to him serious, incident sent him away from the brush to trade, but he still continued to draw with his pencil and to add greatly to the local store of knowledge upon the mass of antiquarian subjects to be met with at Chester and in its neighbourhood. He was moreover a fair speaker and a well educated man, and was well able to explain by word of mouth, all the beauties of his sketches upon paper. He took an active part in all antiquarian researches conducted by local societies in Cheshire, and proved himself to be both a master and teacher at once. His useful life ended in 1874, to the no small regret of his many friends, and to the loss of the public of Chester.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY IN A WELSH CHURCH.—The parish church of Llanfachraeth, one of the oldest buildings of its kind in Anglesey, is in course of restoration. Recently the workmen found under the eastern window an old oak chest, and on this being removed the bottom fell out, and with it a quantity of old-fashioned communion plate, consisting of a flagon and several tin plates, which it is conjectured were buried for safety's sake at the time of the Reformation.

APRIL 24, 1878.

NOTES.

REV. J. A. COTTON OF ELLESMERE.—The inhabitants of Ellesmere marked their appreciation of the nearly half century of service of this gentleman as the Vicar of the parish, by the presentation of a silver service of plate weighing 400 ounces, and the result of 452 subscriptions. The presentation was made on Feb. 8, 1836, George Stanton, Esq., bailiff, being the spokesman. The following inscription was engraved on the principal salver:—"A.D. 1835. To the Rev. Joseph Aldritch Cotton, M.A., Vicar of Ellesmere. This salver, together with two smaller ones, and four covered dishes, is most respectfully presented by his parishioners, as a memorial of their respect and esteem for his public and private worth, exemplified in the faithful discharge of his duties among them during a ministry of five and forty years."

NEMO.

ANCIENT BRITISH FENCIBLES. — The *Salopian Journal* of Dec. 9, 1801, published the following letter from the *Courier* of the preceding week, because "it entirely took off the stigma, thrown on the Antient British Fencibles:"

To the Editor of the *Courier*.

Sir, Having lately read a publication entitled *A History of the Rebellion in Ireland in the year 1793, &c.*, by the Rev. J. Gordon, which contains among many other misrepresentations and inaccuracies, the following paragraph in page 212, viz. :—"Some soldiers of the Ancient British Regiment cut open the body of Father Michael Murphey, after the battle of Arklow, took out his heart and roasted the body, and oiled their boots with the grease that dripped from it;" I feel that I should be wanting in gratitude to those brave men whom I once had the honour to command, and with whom I personally served during the whole of the battle of Arklow above-mentioned, did I not take the earliest opportunity of declaring, that no soldier of the Ancient British Fencible Cavalry ever touched any part of the remains of Father Michael Murphey; and consequently the whole of the above anecdote is a gross calumny, totally destitute of any foundation.

WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN,

Late Col. of the Ancient British Fencible Cavalry.

The regiment was popularly known in Ireland as "the Bloody Britons," and "Sir Watkin's Lambs."

N.W.S.

SHROPSHIRE LINGO.—Any one interested in jotting down Shropshire words and sayings cannot do better than watch boys at play, and hark to their talk. The last time "Marabels was in" I did so and culled the following:—

"It inna yore turn, Bill, yoave gone."

"No I hanna, s'help me."

"But yo have, I seed yo."

"Wish I may never, if I have."

"Cross your throat, then."

All this, and more, took place in the neighbourhood of Oswestry. The "S'help me" and the crossing of the throat are equivalent to kissing the book after the "So help me God" of the witness box, and the "Wish I may never" is a contraction of "I wish I may never stir if I am not telling the truth." The "S'help me" is a popular form of oath, and a boy must indeed be "a 'nointed rascal" who would lie after the formula. Boys, I fear, do not consider their yea to be yea and nay nay, any more than do their elders; and it is by no means an unusual thing to hear a man or woman in the witness box say under cross-examination, "I would'n't have kissed the book and said it if it was'n't true." From a similar feel-

ing ignorant plaintiffs and defendants will sometimes exclaim, after a witness has been sworn, "He (or she) didn't kiss the book, gentlemen!" and make sure, by their own eyes, that more than the thumb was saluted. JARCO.

QUERIES.

WELSH FUNERALS. — "*Bell-Corn* is a small perquisite belonging to the clerk in certain parishes." So writes Mr. Pennant in 1796, in his *History of Whitford*. He could not learn the origin. He does not say what Bell-corn was. Perhaps some reader will tell us. He also says, that in some churches, "the disgusting" custom prevails "of the corpse being brought into the church during divine service, and left there till the congregation is dismissed." Does he mean at other than the funeral service? G.G.

THE FEMALE FREEMASON.—There are few people who have not heard of the adventurous woman who concealed herself in a Lodge Room in order to learn the mysteries of masonry; and who, being discovered through her screaming during the awful ceremonies she witnessed, was at once "made a mason" by the brethren, and accordingly bound by horrid oaths to keep "the secret." It will surprise most of your readers to learn that the lady was a Welshwoman! Her death is thus recorded in the papers of May, 1802:—"Died, May 18, aged 85, Mrs. Beaton, in St. John's Maddar-Market, Norwich. She was a native of Wales, and commonly called *The Free-Mason*, from the circumstance of her having contrived to conceal herself one evening in the wainscoting of a lodge room, where she heard that secret, the knowledge of which thousands of her sex have in vain attempted to arrive at.—She was a very singular old woman, and as a proof of it, the secret died with her!" Can any reader of *Bye-gones* say where in Wales Mrs. Beaton was born, and what was her maiden name?

FIDELITY.

REPLIES.

DR. CHARLES BURNEY (Mar. 6, 1878).—Mr. HUGHES will find on p. 90 of vol. 1 of "Transactions of Shropshire Archaeological and Natural History Society," in the very interesting extracts by Mr. Leighton from the Parish Registers of the Abbey Church, Shrewsbury, the following:—"1721, May 6, married by license, James Mackburney and Anne Cooper, both of S. Chad's parish." To this Mr. Leighton appends the following note:—"This records the marriage of the father and mother of the learned Dr. Charles Burney, the historian of Music, and grandfather of Madame D'Arbly, author of *Evelina*."

H.W.A.

RUYTON CASTLE, (Apr. 10, 1878).—"Did Ruyton-of-the-Eleven-Towns, Salop, ever possess a castle?" To settle this question I may briefly state that the foundations of the Tower of said castle are being now laid bare; it is forty-eight feet square and the walls are twelve feet thick. I give also two quotations from Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*:—"The Castles of Oswestry, Knockyn, Carrechova and Whittington were the more advanced posts of border warfare, while the castles of Shrawardine, Ellesmere and Ruyton lay more in the rear." "The Seigneuries of both Fitz Alan and Le Strange are to be recognized in the statement that the deceased had held half Withyford of the Earl of Arundel, by service of half a knight's fee, returnable at Ruyton castle (which was Le

Strange's.") The castle was "standing in the year 1336. It was probably destroyed a few years later and furnished materials for building the church tower evidently of that date. F.P.W.

OSWESTRY THEATRE (Ap. 3, 1878).—In connection with this subject let me ask if any of your readers remember a dramatic performance, in the year 1836, in the Boys' National Schoolroom, which was then held in what is now our Guildhall. The only allusion to the affair I have seen is a letter quoting from a letter in a Shrewsbury newspaper in which occur these words:—"There cannot be any difficulty in yielding the palm when . . . urges the superiority of the melo-dramatic performances at the Boys' School Room, over those of Mr. Stanton's huskined strollers." NEMO.

CHURCH BELLS (Sep. 26, 1877).—I am not sure whether the following record of bell-ringing has appeared in *Bye-gones* or not:—

On Monday evening (Dec. 6, 1802) in St. Chad's Tower, Shrewsbury, was completed in a correct and masterly style by the Union Society, a peal of Grandfire Caters, containing 5058 changes, in 3 hours 39 minutes, forming a selection of the most harmonious courses with 5, 2, 4, 6, behind the 9th in regular succession; being the first true 5,000 ever rung on those bells in the above method.—Composed and called by Mr. William Bull.

I do not profess to understand the paragraph, but I send it presuming it will find readers more enlightened.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

The following inscriptions on the six bells of *Llanbadarn Fawr Church*, a part of which is now undergoing restoration, may be of interest to your readers:—

First Bell: When you us ring, we'll sweetly sing. A.R. 1749.

Second: Peace & good neighbourhood. A.R. 1749.

Third: Prosperity to the Church of England. A.R. 1749.

Fourth: We were all cast at Gloucester by Abel Rudhal, 1749.

Fifth: Thomas Powell, Esq., Lewis Williams, gent: churchwardens. A.R. 1749.

Sixth: I to the Church the Living Call and to the Grave do summon all.

The tower is as strong as a rock, but the wood work of the interior is very dilapidated, so much so, indeed, as to render it somewhat dangerous to make the bells "sweetly sing." The legend on the first bell is by no means exaggerated, and therefore it is to be hoped that the work of restoration will include the wood work of the belfry. W.R.H.

[We gave the inscription on these bells on June 12, 1872, but as the foregoing varies in some particulars, we gladly insert the paragraph.—ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

POWYS-LAND MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(By a Correspondent.)

We are glad to be able to announce that within a recent period this Museum and Library has received many interesting additions.

Amongst the local antiquities may be mentioned a beautiful flint Celt found near Park-house, Newtown, and a flint flake, and also four ancient horse shoes found in the same neighbourhood; a small bronze Taper stand found near Llanidloes; a spear-head (fractured) found in that district; and a copy of curious wall inscriptions discovered in Guilsfield Church.

There has also been presented a "Scold's Bridle" that has been long in Forden House of Industry. "It consists of a hoop of iron to encircle the neck; from this proceeds an arch, with a

plate or 'gag' to enter the mouth, by which the tongue is compressed so that the most loquacious scold is at once rendered unintelligible." Engraved portraits of Robert 1st Lord Clive—his son the 1st Earl of Powis, Dr. Peter Heylin, Dr. A. Rees, the Cyclopedist, and Sir Thomas Jones, of Carreghova, have been received as Montgomeryshire Worthies.

Also numerous books have been presented to the Library, Brown's Recent Conchology, and Fossil Conchology, History of Blackburn, Bye-gones, Vol. III., Shropshire Shreds and Patches, Vol. II., Border Counties' Worthies, and a large number of Transactions of Literary Societies, a class of literature which well repays study. Four volumes of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, and three odd parts have been presented, which complete the set in the Library up to 1874 (except two parts, xiv. (1858) and xxiv. (1860). This work has become very rare, and we are glad this Library puts it in the reach of all.

Mr. Thomas Pryce, of Batavia, Java, sent direct from there to the Museum three large cases of objects—the first containing a large collection of shells; the second, stone implements, weapons, bronze bell, ancient pottery, and other antiquities; and the third containing numerous models of native weapons, tools, musical instruments, &c. So extensive a gift has rarely been made to the Museum.

Without specifying more, we would mention a very rare Saurian fossil which was lately presented, and is now deposited in the Museum. It consists of a slab of lias, nearly three feet square, in which is embedded the fossil remains of an Ichthyosaurus; the length of jaw is about ten inches, the vertebrae, shoulder bones and ribs are much crushed up but well defined, there are interesting remains of two anterior paddles and other parts. This specimen was taken by its former owner from the same Quarry at Glastonbury from which Professor Hawkins obtained the famous Ichthyosaurus now in the British Museum.

THE LOCAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES.

We have before us for notice part 1 of Vol. 11 of the "Collections of the Powys-land Club;" and part 2, Vol. 1 of the "Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society." The space at our command is very limited, or we might give several interesting extracts from both publications. All we can do is to call the attention of our readers to them.

First in point of age we take the first in our notice, viz.: the *Montgomeryshire Collections*. Mr. R. Williams continues his interesting little biographies of Montgomeryshire Worthies, giving, amongst the rest, a short notice of Mr. Thomas Evans, one of the founders of the "Church on the Independent plan" at Welshpool. Some of our older readers will remember this gentleman, who died at Oswestry in 1829, and will be aware that one of his daughters still lives in Oswestry. Mr. T. G. Jones contributes a chapter on "Nonconformity in the Parish of Meifod," and such as are misled by the title of the paper, to pass it over, in the belief that it is merely a local record, will lose a very singular chapter in Welsh Ecclesiastical history. The "Minute Book of the Friends" commencing 1690, is really a remarkable document, and forms a sequel to the *Autobiography of Richard Davies*. The Rev. Prebendary Davies publishes his promised paper on The Breidden Hills as the scene of the last struggle of Caractacus; and in the course of it makes merry over the absurd Dovaston theory of the ascent of a military force up the face of the rock, and the derivation of the name, as suggested by a correspondent of the *Oswestry Advertiser*. There is a pleasant little chapter on Christmas Rhymes, by the Rev. Elias Owen, in which he quotes the old carol, of the time of James I., "I wish you a merry Christmas, &c." We note in his paper yet another variation to the many to be found in various localities. For instance—

The road is very dirty
My shoes are very thin
Please to give me a penny
To put some nails in!

as he gives it, seem meaningless, unless we accept his explanation that the nails are wanted to mend the shoes. The more usual version of the last two lines is—

I've got a little pocket
To put a penny in

which is a more pertinent hint than a request for hob-nails! The remainder of the number is taken up with papers by Mr. T. Morgan Owen, the Rev. J. E. Vize, Mr. W. W. E. Wynne, Mr. Hamer, the Rev. Robert Jones, Professor Rhys, and Mr. J. E. Trewell, some of which we may be able to notice another week.

The *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society* make a goodly part, containing papers by the Rev. W. A. Leighton, the Rev. G. Sandford, Mr. Askew Roberts, the Hon. and Rev. T. O. Bridgeman, and the Rev. J. D. La Touche. These are, some of them, very nicely illustrated; and a couple of exquisite little pictures illustrating a paper by Mr. Hubert Smith in the first part are also included; which, we are informed, are presented by the writer. In Mr. Leighton's paper on Hagham Abbey, some extracts from the Cartulary are given, connected with the "Hospital of St. John" at Oswestry, an abstract of which we hope some day to give in *Bye-gones*. Mr. Sandford concludes his very readable account of Ludlow Castle with the remark that "King George IV., no mean judge of the picturesque, assigned to Ludlow a place second only to Edinburgh in his dominions." On what occasion had his Majesty an opportunity of judging, and how did he obtain the reputation of a judge? The Hon. Mr. Bridgeman's account of the "Lords of Billingsley" is taken largely, in the earlier pages, from Eytton; but the latter part forms a valuable addition to that gentleman's *Antiquities*. Mr. La Touche, in his paper on Stokesay Castle, acknowledges his obligation to Mrs. Stackhouse Acton for materials: his paper is very interesting.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE BISHOP OF LICHFIELD.

After the Bishop of Lichfield's funeral on Tuesday, April 16, a meeting was held in the large room, at the Palace, to consider what steps should be taken towards creating a memorial of the late bishop.

The DEAN said they were very anxious to take the first opportunity which presented itself for starting some movement by which they could testify their deep and affectionate respect for that distinguished prelate whom they had just laid in the grave. They would be ready to testify their respect to a less distinguished prelate, but when they considered who it was in this case—when they considered his great achievement for the extension and development of the great Colonial Church, and when they remembered how, at the call of duty and obedience to repeated requests of his Sovereign, he abandoned that work which was dearest to his heart, and came and placed himself in the Midland diocese—they would be utterly wanting in natural feeling if they did not at once do something by which they might perpetuate that great and distinguished name. (Hear, hear.) The See of Lichfield had been filled by very many distinguished men, but he knew of no one who had proved himself such a worthy successor of St. Chad as had that distinguished prelate. They naturally reflected under such circumstances whether there was any particular object which the bishop had himself at heart. He (the Dean) was able to inform them that the Bishop desired the restoration of two or three mortuary chapels on the south side of the Lady Chapel, which had been left just as they were in the desolating war in the seventeenth century. It was his particular desire that these mortuary chapels should be renovated and made fit to receive one or two or even three monuments, as occasion might serve. Some plans were prepared by the late Sir Gilbert Scott for the restoration of these chapels. They were not entirely completed, but they could easily be finished, and carried out by Sir Gilbert Scott's successors. He did not wish to dictate to the meeting what form the memorial should take, but he thought it right to mention the circumstance.

Mr. GLADSTONE—Mr. Dean, I feel myself disabled from addressing you in any ordinary sense of the term. In the first place I think it was eminently desirable that this should be considered as a diocesan undertaking in this sense, not that the interest in it should be confined to the diocese, but that the motive power, the directing power, and the choice should come from the diocese, and it is therefore to those who are concerned with it that I think we who are outside should be disposed to look. As to speaking too highly of the Bishop, it is a task which would be difficult at any time, and which would be totally impossible for any one to undertake who had known him so long as I had, from his boyhood upwards. I will only say that there is one epithet which, I hope, will always be associated with his name beyond any other, and that is the epithet "Noble." (Applause.) That is the one description of his character. It comes more nearly to an adequate description than any other that I know of. But, Mr. Dean, notwithstanding what I have said of the diocese, I will, hoping to be excused from all detail on this subject, venture to say that after what has fallen

from you, you appear to me to be singularly happy in possessing, through a channel so direct and authentic, an intimation of the Bishop's wishes. I cannot help anticipating that this intimation will—so far as it carries out what you have so judiciously proposed—that the intimation will be conclusive. There will not, I trust, in this instance be that competition of memorials which sometimes operates most unfortunately even upon aggregate results as well as upon relative results; and for myself, so far as I may presume to express myself, I hope and earnestly trust we shall show our reverence and our love for the memory of this extraordinary man by endeavouring to walk in the way that his wishes marked out for us in the matter of his memorial.

Sir PERCIVAL HEYWOOD suggested that in addition to the restoration of the chapels, they should do more, and that was by taking means to divide the diocese, and to provide the necessary funds. Lord Selborne concurred in this suggestion.

A provisional committee was unanimously appointed to consider what steps should be taken.

MAY 1, 1878.

AT A WELSH FUNERAL.—A correspondent says: "On Apr. 11, just as the coffin was lowered into the grave in Llansilin Churchyard, a woman stepped forward with a quantity of clean straw under her arm, which she commenced strewing over the coffin before any earth was thrown in. When spoken to about it she said, 'I know what I am about.' The question is what *she* was about?"

NOTES.

BISHOP LLOYD AT OSWESTRY.—A novel incident in the ecclesiastical history of Oswestry occurred nearly 200 years ago, in the shape of a discussion in the Town Hall (in 1681), between Bishop Lloyd and the Non-conformists. Some of your readers will be interested in the following note concerning that discussion, from the *Life of James Owen*, who was the Independent Minister in Oswestry at the time:—

That Excellent and Learned Prelate, being a declared Enemy to Persecution, studied to reduce the Dissenters in his Diocese, by mild and Christian Methods; He visited the most considerable Towns within his Episcopal Care, and by dint of Argument endeavour'd to remove the Scruples of all those who dissented from the National Establishment.

His Lordship after some private Conferences with Mr. Owen, order'd him to give his Attendance at the Publick Hall of *Oswestree*, and there produce his Reasons why he Preach'd without Ordination by Diocesan Bishops. The Warning was short, for he had not above Four or Five Days to prepare, yet had no Reason to be asham'd of the Consequence.

His Lordship having directed him to procure what other Ministers he pleas'd to assist at the Conference, Mr. Owen fix'd upon the Reverend Mr. *Philip Henry*, of *Broad oake*, and Mr. *Jonathan Roberts* of *Stainvair* in *Denbighshire*, both educated at *Oxford*, and turn'd out of the Church by the Act of Uniformity, 1662.

Mr. *Henry* was a Gentleman of Excessive Modesty, yet would not forsake Mr. *Owen* at so critical a Juncture; He manag'd his part with a prudent and primitive Temper, with such Mildness and forcible Reasons, as recommended him to the high Esteem of my Lord the Bishop, and the Company.

Mr. *Roberts* was an excellent Scholar and a warm Disputant; a truly upright Man, an *Israelite* indeed for Plainness and Integrity.

The Bishop brought with him the Learned Mr. *Henry Dodwel*; whose Judgment I presume was not so much distemper'd then, as it has since appeared to be, by his late Writings; else the Reverend Prelate would not have been so unequally yok'd.

It may interest some of your readers to know that the "warm disputant" Mr. Roberts was the innocent cause of something like a row that broke up the Conference. Sir J. B. Williams, in his edition of the *Life of Philip Henry*, gives a record, which says:—

The Conference broke off a little abruptly. The bishop and Mr. Henry being somewhat close at an argument, in the recapitulation of what had been discoursed of, Mr. Jonathan

Roberts whispered to Mr. Henry, "Pray let my lord have the last word;" which, a justice of peace upon the bench over-hearing, presently replied:—"You say, 'My lord shall have the last word;' but he shall not, for I will;—we thank God, we have the sword of power in our hands; and, by the grace of God, we will keep it; and it shall not rust; and I hope every lawful magistrate will do as I do. And, look to yourselves, gentlemen, by the grace of God, I will root you out of the country." To which a forward man in the crowd said, "Amen! Throw them down stairs!" This the Bishop heard with silence, but the Mayor of the town took order for their safety.

In the lives both of James Owen and Philip Henry we have outlines of the arguments pro and con. A similar discussion took place at Llanfyllin, which I think is referred to in the *Life of Richard Davies*, the Welshpool Quaker. JARCO.

A COPPER TABLE.—In the autumn of 1802 a copper table, weighing 20 tons, was cast at Bersham Iron Works, Wrexham, for the Ravenshead Glass Company, Lancashire. The metal was melted in five furnaces, each containing four tons, the buildings were secured from the immense heat of the casting by means of a wrought iron umbrella. A carriage on eight wheels was constructed to convey it to its destination. WREXHAMITE.

WELSHPOOL REFORMED CORPORATION.
The first members of the Welshpool Corporation under the Municipal Act of 1835 were John Davies Corrie of Dysserth, Esq., Mayor; Major Pugh of Llanerchydol, R. Griffiths, and Edward Pugh, of Pool, Aldermen; Messrs. Thomas Bowen, Hendrehan; Thomas Beck, Llwynderw; Charles Wilding, Dairy; William Powell, Berriew-street; Thomas Davies, Moors; Thomas Jones, High-street; F. Evans, Welch-town; Thomas Yates, New-street; James Roberts, Derwen; Morris Jones, Broad Street; Thomas Clarke, High Street, and Owen Jones, High Street. BLACKPOOL.

QUERIES.

MACHYNLLETH.—*The Mansion of the Owen Family.*—Towards the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth centuries John Owen Ar. J.P., ab Owen, ab Howel Goch, resided in Machynlleth town. He was the representative of a family descended from Elystan Glodrudd, was Mayor of Machynlleth, and, judging by his pedigree given by Lewys Dwnn, and from the frequent occurrence of his name in the public records, a man of note. His house, according to George Owen, of Kemys, who visited him, was greatly superior in style and comfort to those of his neighbours. Is the house still in existence? If so, in what part of the town is it to be found? Does any pedigree of the descendants of this John Owen, of Machynlleth town exist, giving generations later than those found in Lewys Dwnn, *Visitations*, Vol. I? MAGLONA.

A MOUNTEBANK AT BANGOR-BRIDGE.
I have just seen an 8vo. pamphlet of 32 pp. bearing the following title —

Merry-Andrew's Epistle to his Old Master Benjamin, a Mountebank at Bangor-Bridge, on the River Dee, near Wales. London: Printed for E. Smith in Cornhill. 1719.

What was it all about, and to whom does it refer? A.

[The pamphlet no doubt refers to Bishop Hoadly, the controversial Bishop of Bangor. There is probably nothing local in the pamphlet, or we would ask for the loan of it.—ED.]

A SALOPIAN DRINKING CUP.—During my absence from home some person called and left for my inspection a curious Salopian Cup, but he gave no

history of it, and I am thus left to gather what knowledge I can of its antecedents from the article itself. It is made of white china, and stands about three inches and five-eighths high, it is two and a quarter inches across its base, and about three and a quarter across its upper end. There is a narrow border marked with gold lines on the inner part, near the top, and within this border is printed in gold letters, "Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry." On the outer rim, within a border, is painted, also in gold letters, "King, Constitution, Country," and below this, within three compartments, formed by coloured festoons, there are—1st, a royal crown surmounted by a lion, the letters G.R., and the motto, *Dieu et Mon Droit*. 2nd, an Earl's coronet, the letters L.P.B., and the motto, *In Unita Fortior*. 3rd, two military caps, with feathers, the letters P.I.M. Hill, L.H. Volunteers, and the motto *Ne Concede Malis*. These are underlined with three bands, two in gold and one in another colour, and upon the base of the cup is printed "Reviewed by Pr. Willm. Fredk, Hawkstone Augst. 1. 1803. Rt. Honble. L. Pultney, Bath. Presd. Standard June 4, 1799," and in an inner circle "1799 Ass., Rowl. Hunt, John Edwards, Thomas Walford, Thos. Presland Clk. 1798 Acc. . ." It is a very graceful cup, and in a state of good preservation, but the lettering is fading in places. If some of your correspondents can supplement the silent history thus given by the cup itself, I am sure that in these blustering days, when war is freely spoken of as a thing at hand, many of your readers will be glad to know something of our old antecedents, when the Hills and Hunts of Salopia met in military array at Hawkstone about eighty years ago. E.G.S.
Glanaber, Chester.

REPLIES.

CHESHIRE NOTES (Ap. 17, 1878).—*Bishop Bonner.*—It is impossible not to have a feeling akin to hatred towards Bonner, but your correspondent CESTRIAN would do well to state what I dare say he, having read Burnet's *History*, knows, viz., that when Burnet writes about Bonner—or Gardiner—he frequently allows himself to be so carried away by his dislike of them, that his statements must be received with caution by all who care for historical truth. Bonner was undoubtedly both a bad man and a silly man, but I believe that the particular statement which your correspondent copies from Burnet has been proved to be inaccurate. He will, I think, find a note to that effect somewhere in Dr. Nare's large edition, though I cannot at the moment put my finger on it. D.L.B.

Welshpool.

See of Chester.—Bishop Burnet, owing to a narrow education received on the other side of the border, was ill and cursorily read in English Church lore, and is, moreover, a most untrustworthy and inaccurate historian, as is the case with all partisan writers. He makes Chester a new See in 1539, created and endowed before any patent-roll, or charter, by Henry VIII., and mistakes Roland Lee for a prelate who did not exist!! and is manifestly in error as regards Bonner's parentage. The Commission for the surrender of Haughmond Abbey was addressed to "the Bpp of Chester our right trustee and well beloved counsellor and lorde president of our counsell in the Marches of Wales," Aug. 24, 32 Henry VIII. [*Four Minsters round the Wrekin*, 41, 43.] This was famous Roland Lee, "made president of Wales the yeere 1535," who "died lord president the yeere 1543, and was buried at Shrewsbury." [*Godwin*, 265.] He was bishop of Coventry and Lichfield. The bishops of Lichfield are occasionally called by mediæval historians bishops of

Chester, because Peter left Lichfield in 1075 for S. John's Collegiate Church, Chester, which he made his See, in obedience to the Council of London: his successor removed to Coventry, where he died in 1117. Matthew Paris says there were three sees, Chester, Coventry, and Lichfield. The scheme of bishoprics in Henry VIII.'s handwriting omits not only Chester but Bristol also; yet the scheme of sees "newly to be erected by the Kinges highnes," in the Augmentation Office, includes "Chestre cum Wenlock" [fo. 24], and "Shrewesbury cum Wenlock" [fo. 26]; the latter was cancelled, so that Shrewesbury's loss was Chester's gain [fo. 29], when "the erections of all the new houses cam from the bisschopp of Winchester." The bishoprick of Chester, wholly a new creation, was endowed in 1541. [Rot. Pat. 33 Hen. VIII., p. 2.] The foundation was made on July 16, and by a new charter Aug. 5, 1541; and an Act of Parliament transferred the see to the Province of York. John Bird was the first bishop. He was translated from Bangor. He had been consecrated to Penreth and Louis Thomas to Shrewsbury on June 28 1537 by Thomas Cantuar. John Roffen, and Rob. S. Asaph. The Cathedral was formed out of the Benedictine Abbey of S. Werburga. MACKENZIE E. C. WALCOTT.

WELSH FUNERALS. *Bell-corn* (Apr. 24, 1878).—The perquisite known as Bell-corn was not one attaching to funerals, although Mr. Pennant in the passage quoted by "G. G." mixes up funeral services in connection with it. *Yd y Gloch*=the corn due to the Ringer, was a donation expected by the sexton when he collected the tithe for the parson. *Ysgyb y Gloch*=the Bell sheaf, used also to be a well-known term; and was a portion expected by the sexton. BONWM.

CURRENT NOTES.

Aber parish church, situate about midway between Bangor and Llanfairfechan, was on Tuesday, April 23, opened for service, after having been entirely rebuilt. The old church was a favourite resort of Mrs. Hemans, the poetess, and its erection dates so far back as 674, it being one of the oldest Christian churches in Britain. It was occupied by Cromwell's soldiery when on their way to Ireland. The re-building has been carried out at a cost of about £4,000, by Mr. Evan Roberts, contractor, Bangor, from the designs of Messrs. Pugin, Westminster, Mr. Roberts, one of the churchwardens, acting as clerk of the works. Lord Penrhyn gave £500 and the site; Major Platt, £200; and the Rev. T. Norris Williams, who has just resigned the living, £100. The style of architecture is the Early Decorated, and the new building may fairly lay claim to being one of the most perfect specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in Bangor diocese. It comprises a nave, chancel, vestry, organ chamber, and tower sixty feet high, in which is hung the peal of bells, presented by Sir R. Bulkeley, to be rung in stormy and foggy weather to warn persons crossing the dangerous Lavan sands from the Anglesey side of the Menai Straits. The west window is the gift of Lord Penrhyn, and is executed by Messrs. Clayton and Bell; and that at the east end is a memorial to the late Mr. John Platt, M.P. for Oldham, and is presented by Mr. Joseph A. Platt. On the north side are three other windows, executed, with that at the east end, by Messrs. Ward and Hughes. One is given by Mrs. Empson, in memory of her son Clement, who was killed at the waterfalls two years ago; the second by Mr. John H. Platt, and the other by Mr. and Miss Llewellyn Lewis. Major Platt is the donor of the organ, Lady Penrhyn of the altar cloth, and Mrs. Norris Williams of the chancel carvings. The Bishop of Bangor preached at the opening service, which was largely attended.

May Day at Knutsford was celebrated in the most elaborate manner. The Queen of the May, a bright and dignified little girl of eight or nine, selected by a committee of ladies for her constant attendance at school and general good conduct, was driven in an open carriage adorned with blue rosettes and drawn by four prancing greys. She was surrounded by a bevy of maids of honour; her shepherd and shepherdess, with straw hats and crooks, were seated in front, and her pages, with powdered wigs and three-cornered hats, behind. In the procession which escorted the carriage were a number of morris dancers, who went through their quaint performances; royal jesters in a tandem donkey cart; the First Royal May Day Foot Guards in crimson coats and dark blue pants; Foresters in Lincoln green, with Robin Hood and Little John; the Court Falconer, with hawks on hand, and, not to mention others, a company of tiny Royal Beef-eaters, and the representatives of various trades. The way is kept by miniature policemen, who are almost all helmet; and when the Queen has been crowned on the village green, there is feasting for the school children.

ALL EQUAL ARE WITHIN THE CHURCH'S GATE.—The following quaint extract from Gough's *Memoirs of the Parish of Myddle*, (Shropshire) appears in the *Free and Open Church Advocate* this month. The date of Gough's MS. was 1700:—"About that time there happened a difference betwene John Downton of Alderton, and William Formeston, about the right of kneeling in the sixth piw on the south side of the north isle, and John Downton putt a locke on the pew doore, butt William Formestone, at Marton, who claimed a share in that seate, came on the Lord's day following, and givinge the piw doore a sudaine plucke, broake off the locke. Upon this there was a parish meeting appointed (for then there were noe Ecclesiasticall courts held in England) to decide this controversy, and to settle persons in vacant seats; for it was held a thing unseemly and undecent that a company of young boyes, and of persons that paid noe leawants, should sitt (in those piws which had beene the passage) above those of the best of the parish."

A WELSH PARSON OF THE 17TH CENTURY.—The following story, from a book called *The Gamester's Law*, published in 1708, is given in *Notes and Queries* Mar. 2, 1878. After speaking of the two books of sports, James's in 1618, and Charles's in 1633, the writer goes on as follows:—"But tempora mutantur; our Gracious Queen [Anne] and our Reverend Bishops will not Patronize any such Custom or Allowance. And, that the ignorant People were misled, and thought such Pastimes Innocent sort of Mirth appears by this story of a *Welsh Parson, John* (a poor Boy) was bred up at School, and being a plodding Lad at his Books, used to assist some Gentlemens Sons that went to the same school. Afterwards *John* took a trip to the University and got a Degree and Orders: He, in process of time, upon some occasion comes for *London* in a tattered Gown: One day a Gentleman that had gone to School with him, meets him, and knew him; *Jack* (saith the Gentleman) I am glad to see thee, how dost do? I thank you (Noble Squire) replied *Jack*. The Gentleman invited him to the Tavern, and after some Discourse of their School and former Conversation, the Gentleman ask'd him where he lived? *Jack* answered in *Wales*. The Gentleman askt him if he were Married? The Parson replied he was, and that he had a Wife and seven Children. Then the Gentleman enquired of the value of his Benefice, the Parson answered it was worth £9 *per Annum*. Pugh! quoth the Gentleman, How canst thou maintain thy Wife and Children with that, O! Sir,

quoth Jack, shrugging his Shoulders, we live by the Church-yard, my Wife sells Ale, and I keep a Bear, and after Evening Service (my Parishioners being so kind to bring their Dogs to Church) I bring out my Bear and bate him, and for about two Hours we are at Heave and Shove, Staff and Tail till we are all very hot and thirsty, and then we step in to our Joann, and drink stoutly of her Nutbrown Ale, and I protest (Squire) saith he, we make a very pretty Business of it."

MAY 8, 1878.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS OF SHREWSBURY.—Under this heading "M.H.P." on May 27, 1874, gave some curious customs formerly observed at Shrewsbury; which he copied from the *Gents' Mag.* for 1800; that publication having quoted "Domesday Book, Vol. 1. p. 252." In the quotation occurred the following: "When the King went from the city, the Sheriff *lenteurde* sent him 24 horses &c;" and a query was appended asking what this meant. "G.H." in *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, Apr. 24, 1878, on the authority of the late Mr. Thomas Wright, interprets "*lenteurde*" to be "Leintwardine."

NOTES.

SION RHYDDERCH'S DICTIONARY.—In pp. 354, 355 of *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, a transcript is given of the Welsh as well as of the English title-page of a book printed by Thomas Thurston at Shrewsbury in 1737, which was the second edition of Sion Rhydderch's English and Welsh Dictionary, the first having been published in 1725. On the English title-page of a copy of the second edition, now before me, the following paragraph occurs:—"Originally began by John Roderick, and now Finished and compleated with several hundred Additional Words, by the Revd. Mr. John Williams, Rector of Willey, in Shropshire, and Mr. Lewis Evans, of Llandessilio." A version in Welsh of this paragraph is given on the opposite Welsh title-page, in which the name of Lewis Evans is included. The editor of *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, however, in a footnote on p. 355 of that work, states:—"The author adds here [that is, after Shropshire in the above paragraph] 'and of Mr. Lewis Evan of Llandessilio'; but I can affirm from personal knowledge that nothing of the kind is to be seen on the original title-page of this book." From this statement it appears that the name of Lewis Evans was omitted in the title-page of some copies, whilst it was inserted in others, as instanced in my own. In the preface, which is in Welsh by Thomas Durston, the printer, no allusion is made to Lewis Evans, but the Rector of Willey, and the part he took in the work, are mentioned in a paragraph to the following effect:—"This work has been completed by the pains and labour of Mr. J. W., who has carefully corrected many inexcusable errors in the first edition; from whose collection I have added near six hundred new words in English and Welsh." As this is called the second edition, it is desirable to know wherein it differs from, or otherwise whether it be identical with, that which is stated to have been issued with a shorter title-page in 1731. It will also be of interest to have a biographical sketch of the Rev. John Williams and Mr. Lewis Evans, of Llandessilio, who are mentioned as having aided with additional words in completing the work.

LLALLAWG.

QUERIES.

THE CONFSSIONAL IN CHURCHES.—If any of the readers of *Bye-gones* have met with traditions about the confessional cells in parish churches in Wales,

or the Borders, will they please give them? Had all parish churches in R.C. times, a confessional cell (*Cyffes-gell*) in them? If so, in what part of the church?

OLIVER SYMON.

ECCLESIASTICAL DISTRICT OF DYLIFAU. Can any one give the number of acres taken from each of the adjoining parishes to constitute this lately formed district?

IDLOES.

GRIFFITHS'S GHOST.—Are there any traditions floating in the present day of the slaughter of a royalist—the son of Mr. Griffiths, of Plas Llanddyfnan, Anglesey—in the time of the civil wars? We are told in *Arch. Camb.*, 1850, p. 146, that "he was cruelly murdered" near his father's house, "and many strange tales were told of Griffiths's ghost about the narrow old road where he was massacred, hence the place is still *Lôn y Bwbach*, or the Hobgoblin's Lane."

N.W.S.

REPLIES.

OWEN GWYNEDD'S PEDIGREE (Mar. 13, 1878).—In reply to LLALLAWG, I forward to you a literal copy of the account of Owen Gwynedd's family, in *Hengwrt MS.* 113, in the autograph of Gutyn Owen. There is no reference whatever to the tradition of Madoc's having emigrated to America. He was one of Prince Owen's illegitimate children.

Only two autograph manuscripts of Gutyn Owen are known to be in existence, the *Llyfr Du Basing* and *Hengwrt MS.* 113. There was one formerly at Maesmor, said to be in his hand, *Y llyfr vychan o Vuesmor o waith a llaw Gutyn Owen sydd yn calyn*, but it has disappeared. Gutyn wrote an unusually clear and beautiful hand, but there is one word, or rather abbreviated word, in the under written extract, which I am unable to make out. It is the last word in the first paragraph, is written in red ink, and looks like an abbreviation of some word beginning with *an*.

I believe that *Hengwrt MS.* 113 was written before the accession of Ed. IV., in the latter part of the reign of Hen. VI.

Plant ywain gwynedd ap gr. ap kynn, *an*
Jer. a maelgwn a gwenllian mam wenwynwyn ap ywain
keveilioc. I mam oedd wladus verch lywarch ap trehauarn ap
kriadoc ap gwynn ap gollwyn ap ednowain ap bleddyn ap blettrus
ac i ach bleddyn.

David a rodri achadwallon abad enlli ac angharaad wrtaic
gruff. maelor Plant ywain oeddynt o gristin verch ronwy ap
ywain ap edwin i gefnherw oedd honno.

Mam ronwy ap ywain gwynedd oedd vorwydd verch ednywein
benndew.

Mam gynan ap ywain gwynedd oedd ynkarad verch bredur ap
mael ap bleddyn o veirionnydd

Mamm lln. ap ywain oedd wenllian verch Ednywain ap gweydr
ap dyfnaunt.

Mam ho. ap ywain oedd wladus.

Mam vereddud ddu ap ywain Morwydd verch verwydd hir oedd.

Mam lldwal ap ywain oedd avandrec verch wrgi o vynydd
gradiavael.

Mam gyn (rvn) ap ywain oedd vedd chwaer avandrec verch
wrgi i gelwid.

Mam flylib ap ywain oedd vorwyll verch eluan ap sanddef o
ros.

Madoc ac egn. meibion ywain vn vam oeddynt.

Dav. (dau) gynvrie avyant veibion i ywain vn a wystlodd ywain
i hennrri ynghoed kerrioc ac o hynny y bu varw.

y llal a elwid Kyn. ap y veirionnes.

Ririd ap ywain bioedd kleochan y dref a roed i hen Gr. ap
Kynan sy rrwng dlvn a swydd golem kylli yn ewerddon.

From *Hengwrt MS.* 113, in the autograph of Gutyn
Owen, folio 52.

W.

MR. EVANS OF LLWYNYGROES (April 17, 1878).—One would suppose that the Society for Encouraging Arts, &c., would scarcely give to the son a prize for a mere adaptation of the work of the father; but the following advertisement that appeared in the Shrewsbury papers of August, 1802, would lead us to believe that the map referred to was merely the older production, with new roads put in:—

The Public are respectfully informed that a new and improved impression of Evans' Reduced Map of North Wales, is now ready for Sale at the usual price and places. In the above are inserted several new, or intended Roads, particularly the proposed Cut from Capel Voilas, by Capel Cerrig, to Bangor, instead of the circuitous Route through Conway, and from Cerrig y Druidion to Ruthin, forming a Communication with Chester, and thereby avoiding Conway Ferry.

Shrewsbury, Aug. 11, 1802.

Some of these roads were just then a good deal occupying public attention. "The Capel Cerrig and Bangor Road Bill" had just been carried through parliament amidst strong opposition, and received the Royal Assent on Aug. 7, 1802; and it was stated in the papers that the promoters hoped to accomplish their work in three months, "whereby the distance between Shrewsbury and Holyhead will be shortened at least nine miles, avoiding the dangerous Ferry at Conway, &c." N.W.S.

John Evans, Esq., was the original publisher of the maps of North Wales, and was also the author of them. They were issued by him in nine sheets, but the plates were engraved by the ingenious Robert Baugh, and if the work was equal to the engraving of several of his plates which I have seen, it would well merit a reward. John Evans died in 1795, and probably the map-publishing passed into the hands of his son John Evans, M.D., who was the father of the Rev. W. Evans. He appears to have been rewarded within a few years from his father's death, viz., in 1802. In 1809 the engraver, Robert Baugh, also gained a reward, the silver medal of the Society of Arts, and a sum of money. The medal is in the possession of his grandson, Mr. L. J. Baugh, Llanymynech, and is inscribed on the obverse, "Arts and Commerce promoted;" on the reverse, "To Mr. Robert Baugh, 1809, for a map of Shropshire: Society instituted London, 1783." On the purse is written, "A purse of fifteen guineas from the Society of Arts." The maps produced by the joint labours of these men are noted for their accuracy, (many of those published earlier being very inaccurate in detail,) and are also noted for the clearness and sharpness of the engraved lines. A specimen of the Shropshire map can be seen on the wall of the Powysland Museum, Welshpool, and is well worthy of inspection. If some reader of *Bye-gones* can give any information respecting the lives of these men, it would be interesting, especially of Robert Baugh, who, besides being an engraver, was an excellent land surveyor and draughtsman. He died in 1832, aged 84. Some of his plates adorn the north wall of Llanymynech Church. LLERTWEF.

The name of Robert Baugh will always be associated with Evans's Maps. When he died a short notice of him appeared in one of the Shrewsbury papers; from the pen of Mr. J. F. M. Dovaston, as follows:—"Died, 27th December, 1832, aged 84, near Llanymynech, the ingenious, cheerful, and benevolent Mr. Robert Baugh; well known and valued as the accurate and perspicuous engraver of great and small maps of North Wales, published by the late John Evans, Esq., and his own great map of Shropshire, together with the vignettes that adorn those elaborate works. The sensitive affections of heart and mind in this truly good man were at all times singularly alive to the playful and pathetic; and with such

rapid alternations that the writer of this short and transient tribute, has seen him both laugh and weep in the same moment, at passages of Shakespeare, when read by their now venerable friend, the amiable and elegant poet, Dr. Evans. He loved music in the depth of his soul most cordially; and to him the rich and varied tones of an organ were prelibations of heaven. He rarely ever permitted his sincere and really pious devotions of gratitude in the parish church, where he presided over the psalmody, which he enthusiastically accompanied on 'the loud bassoon.' With happiness and length of days heaven never blessed a kinder creature. Travellers here frequently expressed surprise at the excellence of the prints and maps of the village inns of Llanymynech; and still greater when informed that they were all selected by the gentle taste, and many etched and engraved by the ingenious talents of the parish clerk, the unassuming and merry-hearted Robert Baugh." Dr. Evans has been already mentioned in *Bye-gones*. He was author of *The Bees*, a poem of some merit. SCROBBES BYRIG.

MAY 15, 1878.

GWENWYNWYN'S CHARTER.—"R.D." asks for the modern names of places mentioned in this Charter to the Monks of Strata Marcella, so as to enable him to trace on the map the boundaries of the ancient province of Cyfeiliog.

HATHAWAY ESTATE.—SENOJ is reminded that our *Bye-gones* column only includes Wales and the Borders.

NOTES.

SONG:—TOWN AND TRADE OF ELLESMERE.—A song under this title appeared in *Bye-gones*, Oct. 3, 1877, of which the following is the first verse:—

O! long life to the Myttons, the Hatchetts,
The Mainwarings, Dymocks, my dear,
While the mountains re-echo the catches
We sing to the praise of Ellesmere.
There's never a town in famed Salop
Can match it for frolic and fun,
If throughout all Shropshire you gallop
From rising till setting of sun.

Then long life, &c.

This song was written by a man of the name of Beggs, an erratic genius, who "flourished" in Ellesmere about 1825, the probable date of the song. Beggs was something of a painter—he was musical also—and had a turn for the stage. There was a company of players in Ellesmere at that time, who for two or three months performed in the Old Market Hall, and Beggs would occasionally act with them. Had he lived in these days he would have been called a "Bohemian." "My dear," in the second line of the first verse, as it appears in *Bye-gones*, should be "so dear." GEORGINA F. JACKSON.

13, White Friars, Chester.

A ROBBERY AT CHIRK.—The following (from the *Gents' Mag*: or *Ann*: *Reg*: I have, as I give it, pasted in a Scrap Book:—

COUNTRY NEWS. Wrexham, April 10. "Monday the first instant was tried before the Hon. Lloyd Kenyon, and Daines Barrington, Esq., at Wrexham Assizes, a cause wherein Elizabeth Edwards, widow, was plaintiff, and T. Lloyd defendant, both of the neighbourhood of Chirk. The action was brought for recovery of seven guineas, which the plaintiff had lost by going over a stile ever since the year 1776, and though it had been cried, &c., the person who picked it up was not discovered till 1779; and probably would never have been discovered but for the honesty of a servant girl, who lived in defendant's family. Thomas Lloyd bought a suit of clothes, and trusted one Drury with the secret of his having picked up the poor woman's money. Drury thinking it hard not to have a share in the spoil, told the girl, who afterwards got the secret from the

defendant's own mouth, and divulged it to the plaintiff. Several fruitless applications were made for the restoration of the money by fair means; but as nothing but compulsion would avail, the action was commenced, and the jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff of seven guineas, and £1 15s., being the interest for the same from the time the defendant found it.

The £1 15s. allowed being five years' interest, at five per cent., upon the seven pounds, would fix the date of the above trial at Wrexham Assizes as April the first, 1781.

LANDWOR.

QUÉRIES.

FLINTSHIRE AND THE PRINCE OF WALES.

About the middle of 1802 a paragraph appeared in some of the papers as follows:—"The Prince of Wales is likely to derive a very considerable addition to his revenues, by the intended drainage of Redland (sic) Marsh, in Flintshire; it is of vast extent and excellent quality, subject, at present, to inundations from the sea at spring tides." About the same date we are told that "Sirs Thomas and Pierce Mostyn, Mr. Pennant, and Lord Plymouth, are about to enclose the extensive waste in Flintshire, called Cluberier (sic) or Long Path; it contains several thousands of acres of land, competent to every purpose of husbandry." When were these works executed, and what did the Prince gain by it?

G.G.

PREN Y GROG PREN, near Dylifau, Mont.—From the Ordnance Map it appears that there is some kind of an earthwork at this spot. Will any one acquainted with the neighbourhood furnish a description of it, and give some account of the origin of the name.

GOGLEDD.

REPLIES.

A NEWTOWN PISCATOR (Jan 30, 1878).—Henry Williams, whose death was announced in the Cam. Quar. Mag. for 1830, was a well-known character in the district, though not, I should have thought, a man of sufficient mark to figure, even when dead—a time when men's virtues are often discovered for the first time—in a quarterly serial. Williams figured in a local poem called *The Otter Hunt*, by George Thomas, whose poem *Welsh Flannel*, has already been quoted in *Bye-gones*. The author in describing the various persons who went to the hunt, says—

To whip forward the hounds came a little lame fisher,
To his rival the otter no very well-wisher,
His shirt fell his waistcoat and waistband between,
And like a Scotch petticoat round him was seen;
And a cravat once white was around his neck t' d,
Which now with the juice of tobacco was d' d,
That flow'd from the quid of pipe which he chew'd,
And his chin and his kerchief and waistcoat bestrew'd;
He had orders received to gaze firm on the brook,
Should the otter be rous'd to see which way he took
For the central longest on duty will stay
Whose legs are unable to bear him away.

The poem was printed by Mr. Jackson Salter, of Newtown, who had formerly resided in Oswestry, and I have been told that when he read the above passage to the hero of it, Williams, before he had finished, exclaimed, rather forcibly "Why, he means me!"

S. J

OSWESTRY TOLLS (Feb. 20, 1878).—Your correspondent TELL asks for particulars relative to "a case" which was about to be prepared in 1815, with a view of testing the legality of Toll-taking at the sites of the old Oswestry gates. I have just met with a letter in the *Salopian Journal* of Jan. 27, 1836, which incidentally alludes to it, in the following passage:—

I am old enough to remember many an unpleasant rencontre between the renters of "toll-through" from the Lord of the

Manor, and the Farmer, on the delivery of grain to his dealer, both within and "without the walls"—the deep-laid, but yet abortive scheme resorted to to test such claim—and the final extinction of simple toll;—and also that on the wheels passing through, or unloading without, the walls. During the first period loud and just were the complaints made against the exaction of these dues of feudal times, and many the wishes expressed for the consummation so desirable as their entire removal. Year after year passed away, yet were our wishes unfulfilled, until at length, by the praiseworthy exertions of a highly talented gentleman, of whom his fellow-townsmen have need to boast, this obnoxious tax was removed, being purchased by voluntary subscriptions of the town and neighbourhood.

This communication is more a note on than a reply to TELL's query, save that it hints at the attempt to test the tolls being abortive, and it suggests a couple of queries on its own account, viz.—Who was the public benefactor alluded to, and when was the public subscription made?

FITZALAN.

ROGERS (Jan. 13, 1875).—Since the query regarding the family of Rogers in Wales, appeared, it has been ascertained that the Rev. Henry Rogers, rector of Trefilan, and vicar of Llanfihangel Ystrad, 1698—1744 (the date of his preferment as inserted in the query being a misprint), was the son of Lewis Rogers, of Ystradfellte, in Breconshire. He was born in 1667, and educated at the Collegiate School of Brecon, from which he went to Jesus College, Oxford, where he matriculated on the 2nd of July in Trinity Term, 1683. He took the degree of B.A. on the 11th of April, 1687, but does not appear to have proceeded further. His first curacy was that of Pen-y-daren, a parish adjoining Ystradfellte. From there he migrated into Carmarthenshire, where it is believed he held the curacy of Abergwyli. Thence he removed into the Vale of Aeron, being said to have been the first of the name that settled in that neighbourhood, where the representatives of the family still occupy an honourable position. It is not known that he was the author of any published work, but there exists evidence to show that he excelled in classical attainments, and left records in calligraphy highly to be admired. Information touching the above-named Lewis Rogers, where in Ystradfellte he resided, and the stock from which he sprang, is further desired.

LLALLAWG.

A SALOPIAN DRINKING CUP (May 1, 1878).—I presume "P. I. M. Hill, L.H. Volunteers" means "Pimhill Light Horse Volunteers," at any rate there was such a company, at the beginning of the century, commanded by Mr. Rowland Hunt. The cup doubtless originated in the visit of Prince William Frederick to Shropshire, on the last days of July and first days of August 1803. I have a short newspaper report of that visit before me as I write, and in it find that his Royal Highness on the 30th of July reviewed Major Cludde's troops of Yeomanry Cavalry, at Wellington, after which he proceeded to Shrewsbury, and the same (Saturday) evening reviewed the three troops of Shrewsbury Yeomanry Cavalry, in the county town. The Major (the Hon. W. Hill) and Capt. Powys, being unavoidably absent, the command devolved on Capt. Hanmer. On the following day the Prince attended Divine service, and on Monday, Aug. 1 (the date on the cup) he went to Hawkestone, where he reviewed the troops of the North Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Major John Hill. No doubt the "Pimhill" troop was there; but I cannot hazard a guess as to the "Earl's coronet, with letters L.P.B.," or to whom the Standard was presented by the Hon. L. Pulteney on June 4, 1799. I have no record of any presentation at that date, although I have a file of Shrewsbury papers of the year.

N.W.S.

BISHOP LLOYD AT OSWESTRY (May 1, 1878.)
I have a pamphlet entitled "A Cursory view of the Lives of the Rev. Jonathan Hamner, A.M., and the Rev. John Hamner, A.M., &c.," which is comprised in Seven letters to Thomas Welman, Esq., of Poundesford Park, near Taunton, by H. W. Gardiner; and which was printed in Barnstaple in 1828. One passage (p. 31) points out another meeting between the Bishop of St. Asaph, and the Independent Minister of Oswestry, and is as follows:—

About the same time, in June 1688, Dr. Lloyd, Bishop of St. Asaph, passing through Oswestry, in Salop, sent for the Rev. James Owen, the Dissenting Minister of that town, and in a free and confidential conversation respecting the imminent danger of the Protestant religion, ventured to make known to him the secret of an invitation being sent to the Prince of Orange, by a number of Lords and Gentlemen, acknowledging himself to be one of those who had signed this important document. During this conversation, his Lordship freely expressed his hope that the Protestant Dissenters would readily concur for promoting the common interest; adding these remarkable words:—"You and we are brethren; we have indeed been angry brothers, but we have seen our folly, and are resolved, if ever we have it in our power again, to show that we will treat you as brethren." But when the threatening storm subsided, and a calm beyond all expectation succeeded, too many forgot their vows and promises made, when placed in a state of fearful uncertainty.

If JARCO has the *Life of James Owen* he may perhaps be able to supplement this extract by some passages from it.

SALOPIAN.

MAY 22, 1878.

NOTES.

LLYFRYDDIAETH Y CYMRY.—The value of this book would be greatly increased if the rare books mentioned therein could be traced to present owners, and a list printed in your columns from time to time. Contributions in this direction would be very acceptable to many.
T.W.H.

QUERIES.

MR. THOMAS PRYCE OF LLANFYLLIN.—Who was Mr. Thomas Pryce of Llanfyllin, described by Mr. Hulbert in his *History of Salop* p. 51, as "a learned antiquary, who lived about the middle of the seventeenth century"?
H.B.

REPLIES.

ON THE LOCALITY OF MACKERFIELD.

(Aug. 23, 1876.)

My paper of the above date concluded with the expression of an opinion that "whether Oswestry was, or was not, the scene of the final conflict between Penda and St. Oswald, it certainly was not Winwick," and of an intention to substantiate that view by examining in some detail the arguments in favour of Winwick in the essay by Mr. Littler, which had been read by that gentleman at a meeting of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society in 1843, and was printed in the "Local Gleanings" of the *Manchester Courier* in 1875. Although I fear that interest in the subject must have abated during the considerable interval which has elapsed, during which, from indisposition and other causes, I have been unable to fulfil this intention, still, a wish having been expressed more than once that I should do so, I trust to stand excused if I now venture on some remarks in performance of my promise.

The arguments of Mr. Littler fall naturally under several distinct heads, which it may be as well to enumer-

xxxx

ate:—1. Maserfield. 2. St. Oswald's Wells at Winwick and at Oswestry. 3. The Inscription in Winwick Church. 4. Nennius. 5. The course of the invasion by Penda of Northumbria. 7. The translation of S. Oswald's body to Bardney.

As to the first of these, Mr. Littler asks, "On what authority does it rest that there ever was a Maserfield or Makerfield in Shropshire? Historians seem to infer from the name of the place 'Oswaldstree' that Oswald was crucified, or fixed upon a tree there: then, because Bede says it happened at Maserfelth, therefore Oswaldstree was previously Maserfelth. 'Nil nisi nubes et aer.'" (a) Then he gives a letter from Mr. Dovaston, in which he says, "The earliest name of the town I can find was Blanchminster, afterwards Maserfield till the great battle of 5th August, 642, after which . . . it took that of Oswaldstree." On which he comments thus:—"It would have been very desirable that Mr. Dovaston should have informed us where he found out that the town was originally called Blanchminster. . . . This minster must have been changed into a field (Maserfield) and the latter into Oswestry, all before about A.D. 650. The same may be said of its supposed previous name of Maserfield or Maserfelth. Where, as respects Oswestry, does such a name ever occur except in the application of it by Camden, and his assumption that Oswestry is the place meant by Bede? Camden has probably been the cause of all the mistake. . . . He assumes, because Bede speaks of a Fossa, this to be the place where Oswald was slain, and though nobody ever before that time (about 1580 or 1600) ever heard of a 'Maserfelth' there, he, to reconcile it with Bede's account, assumes that it was at first Maserfelth, but had afterwards become Oswestry from the above circumstance. He knows nothing of Mr. Dovaston's Blanchminster."

Now it may be difficult to believe, but is nevertheless true, that all these "assumptions" were originated, not in the brain of Mr. Camden, but in that of Mr. Littler himself. Doubtless it was an error on the part of Mr. Dovaston, owing, perhaps, to a *lapsus memorie*, to write that the town was first called Blanchminster, afterwards Maserfield, and, after the battle of 642, Oswaldstree. But his mistake was not appropriated from Camden, whom he simply quotes as stating the fact that "the town has its name from Oswald, King of the Northumbrians *whereas before it was called Maserfield* ('cum antea Maserfeld vocaretur'), whom Penda, the Pagan prince of the Mercians, here in a severe engagement slew, and when slain with the greatest barbarity dismembered." Mr. Dovaston's error was in saying that the town was called Blanchminster first and Maserfield afterwards, whereas he had just quoted Camden as saying that it was called Maserfield *before the battle*. That the name of Blanchminster, or White Minster (in Latin, Candida Ecclesia) was given to the church built there in honour of S. Oswald in Norman times, is proved by the element of 'blanch' in the word, and is, moreover, a fact well known to historians, from extant contemporary documents. Mr. Davies, in the portion of his MS. work quoted below on "The Antient and Modern Names of the Towne and Boroughe of Oswestry," quotes a Charter having date from William, son of William Fitzalan "Recepi in manu et p'tecon. mea Burgenses mcos de Blanconster, &c." He also quotes Godwin 'De Presulibus Ecclesiae Anglicanae' (fol. 546) as mentioning a grant by Bishop Reynier of Blank Monasterie to the Monks of Shrewsbury, and an

(a) Query misquoted from Ovid's "Quocunque aspicias nihil est nisi *pontus* et aer," (the word 'nubes' involving a false quantity), given as an example in the Eton Latin Grammar.

anonymous Latin author to the fact that Bp. Reyner converted Blanc Monasterie to be the first church of Oswestry:—"Reynerus Episcopus Asaphensis monasterium Oswaldi ecclesiam parochialem Sti Oswaldi fecit." A little further research might easily have convinced Mr. Littler of the true nature of Mr. Dovaston's error. It was, however, more to his purpose to avail himself of Mr. Dovaston's slip, though transparent on the face of it, and in reverting afterwards to the point, to remark "We ask at Oswestry 'Where is Mackerfield' (ingeniously changing the spelling) and echo answers 'Where?' Whereas Mackerfield at Winwick and Newton is now actually existing." And so utterly is he carried away by his hypothesis of Camden's inventiveness that he ignores altogether two most important additional statements in Mr. Dovaston's postscript, viz., "Maserfeld is the field of oaks, a tree that thrives remarkably well in our soil," and "The Corporation seal of Oswestry has the effigies of *Oswald* and an oak." The relevancy of these facts to the matter is conclusively shown by the practical application of them by the Recorder of Oswestry, John Davies, in his work still extant in manuscript (*Harl. MS.* 1981), entitled "Transcripts of Charters relating to Oswestry, with Historical Notes, addressed to Thomas, Earl of Arundel, 1635." He tells us (I condense his language) that Oswestry, also pronounced Osester, was more anciently written 'Oswaldestree' (Gir. Cambr.), by the Welsh Croes-Oswald, q.e. Oswaldi cruce[m] vel arborem, that it was called before that by the Saxons Maserfeld (written by Bede Meserfelth), signifying 'glandium campus,' which is also signified by the Welsh name 'Trefesen,' as appears by a Welsh Bard, 'Llogawdd, flaglawdd ei phen, Trwy oer fisif tre'r fesen,' i.e., Glandium urbs. Whence the Normans called it Glandeville and Glanvill, and the Welsh Bards Tre Koderi (Coed deri), Town of Great Oakes. Therefore the oaken bough was antiently the Arms of the Town of Oswestry. On the old Common Seal of brass is depicted a king (K. Oswald?) sitting on a chair, holding a sword in his hand, and in his left hand an oaken bough. Whence the oaken bough in the mouth of the White Horse, the Crest of the Fitzalans. In the margin is this note:—"Mesbury, (now Maesbury, called in *Domesday* Meresbury), a hamlet in the parish of Oswestry, is now called 'Llysfeisir' or 'Llys feisydd.'" Thus a basis is supplied for a correct inference as to the order of nomenclature. 1. The Welsh 'Tre-fesen,' corrupted by the Saxons into Mesafelth, or Maserfelth, and then into Maserfield, the name of the district in which is Oswestry, as Winwick is in Mackerfield. 2. The Monastery founded on the spot in honour of S. Oswald, called Album Monasterium, Candida Ecclesia, Y Fonachlog Wen (by the Welsh, according to Davies), and Blancmonster and Blanminster by the Normans, all meaning the same thing, viz., White Monastery, applied latterly also to the town, which grew up around the monastery. 3. Mesbury, corrupted into Maesbury, when the town in Trefesen, to which a Fitzalan granted a Charter, grew into a borough; and 4. Oswaldestree, and Oswestry, from the 'tre' or district, or else possibly from the traditional tree, on which the King's arm was recorded to have been hung. A further basis is supplied for reconciling the statement of Nennius, that the battle was fought at Codoy, with that of the Saxon historians that it was fought at Maserfield. For, just as Winwick is in Mackerfield, so may Codoy have been within the larger locality of Maserfield; and Nennius, as a British historian, representing, as his editors believe him to do, a much earlier author, gives, as might naturally be expected, the precise situation of the spot, the territorial appellation only for which reached the foreign and more distant chroniclers. From all this it is certain that Oswes-

try had its Maserfield, as Winwick its Mackerfield, the former, however, more nearly reflecting the ancient British name, as well as character of the place, but both alike designating a district rather than a town, that being the ancient meaning of the word 'tre.' Maserfelth is, therefore, Oak-field, a translation of the original British name of Trefesen (compare English 'mast'), and the Arms connected St. Oswald with the Oak.

Again, Davies informs us "There was an old oak lately standing in Mesbury within the parish of Oswestry, where one of King Oswald's arms hung, say the neighbours by tradition;" whence it appears that I was not so far out in my surmise, ridiculed by 'F.R.S.' in his letter in "Local Gleanings" in April, 1876, that one of the 'stipites' may have developed into a large tree.

Lancashire antiquaries, however, may still fail to be satisfied. "Camden (so says one of them), has been the cause of all the mistake," and Davies was contemporary with Camden. Davies, however, as has been seen, produced evidence wholly independent of Camden, but let that pass. When, in April, 1876, I sent for insertion in "Local Gleanings" a brief communication in reply to Mr. Littler and his commentator "F.R.S.," it was courteously rejected by the Editor on the ground that it gave no "authority connecting *Oswestry* by name with the scene of Oswald's death before Camden." In my ineffectual search for *Elfric's Life of Oswald* referred to by the late Mr. O. Cocayne in his paper on the "Death of K. Oswald" in *Notes & Queries*, May 17, 1873, but which seems never to have existed, I came upon another Life, which I believe to have been that which Mr. Cocayne had in his mind, entitled "De Sancto Oswaldo Rege et Martire," in Capgrave's "Nova Legenda Angliæ," printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1516. Capgrave's represents an earlier Collection of Saints' Lives by John of Teignmouth, the MS. of which was unfortunately destroyed in the fire in the British Museum. This is what he writes:—

"Commisso tandem gravi prælio ab eadem gente paganâ, paganoque rege Merciorum Penda, a quo et predecessor ejus Edwinus peremptus fuerat: in loco qui lingua Anglorum Maserfeld vocatur, occisus est anno ætatis sue tricesimo octavo nonis Augusti. Est autem locus ille contineris finibus Armorice Wallieque. Antiquitus pars maxima Wallie dicta est Armoria. Ab urbe enim Salopie septem fere miliaribus versus eandem Walliam distari probatur idem locus, abbatibus Salopie ditioni cedit. A fossa quoque regis Offie quæ Angliam et Walliam dividit, miliario non plene dimidio, et a Wenlociensis cenobio miliaribus sexdecim separatur. In quo quidem campo ecclesia quæ Candida Ecclesia dicitur in s'cti Oswaldi honore fundatur, et non procul inde fons perennis exoritur, qui ab incolis fons Sancti Oswaldi nominatur. Penda vero rex caput Sancti Oswaldi abscissum cum brachiis per annum in stipitibus suspendi jussit. Oswaldus namque rex regno Merciorum primitus subjugato et rege Penda in Walliam fugato congregatis pagano- rum copiis in loco memorato sanctum regem Oswaldum interfecit."

As some of my readers may be unacquainted with Latin, I subjoin a translation:—

"A severe engagement having at length been fought by the same Pagan nation and Penda the Pagan king of the Mercians by whom Edwin his predecessor had also been slain, on the spot which in the language of the Angles is called Maserfeld he (Oswald) was killed, on the 5th of August, in the 38th year of his age. Now that spot is continuous with the boundaries of Armoria and Wales. In ancient times the most part of Wales was called Armoria. For the same spot is proved to be about 7 miles distant from the city of Salop in the direction of the same Wales, and is subject to the jurisdiction of the abbot of Salop. It is also separated from K. Offa's Dyke by not full half a mile, and from the Abbey of Wenlock by 16 miles. In which plain in fact the Church, which is called the White Church, is founded in honour of St. Oswald, and not far from it rises up an unfailing spring, which is named by the inhabitants St. Oswald's Well. But king Penda ordered St. Oswald's head with the arms to be cut off and hung upon stakes for a year. For king Oswald

having first of all subdued the kingdom of the Mercians and driven Penda into Wales, he assembled the forces of the Pagans, and slew the holy king Oswald on the spot above recorded."

Here, then, is the proof required—the historian prior to Camden—from whom Camden, moreover, clearly derived his information, and who is quoted also by Dugdale as his authority for a similar statement in his *Monasticon*. The first few lines only are taken from Bede; for the remainder Capgrave must have been indebted to some source dried up by the "Reformation."

Alford, the historian, commenting on this passage about a century afterwards, says:—"All which things (I translate his Latin) make for Oswestry. And so I fear the Lancastrians must lose their cause (timeo ne causâ cadant), especially when it is told there, that Penda had been lately overcome in battle by Oswald, and put to flight. Whence it follows that this part of Mercia had been added to Northumbria, coming into which, and for which Penda now appears to have fought."

Whence it seems that the dispute between Oswestrians and Lancastrians for the death-site of Oswald is more than 250 years old! And their case having thus failed as regards Maserfelth, I trust to be able to show in another paper that the facts make for Oswestry rather than Winwick also on the other points. H.W.L.

SHELLEY IN WALES.

(March 27, 1878).

The following has been communicated to the *Academy* by "John W. Hales, King's College"—With the permission of my friend Prof. Craig, University College of Wales, I give the following extract from a letter lately received from him:—

"I walked the other day to Rhayader. You remember, no doubt, that Shelley went there on a visit to his cousin T. Grove in 1811 and that it was from there that he went up to London, urged by the pressing letters from poor Harriet Westbrook. . . . I saw the house; it is about five miles from Rhayader. . . . I did not succeed in finding the exact house in which Shelley lived when after his marriage with Harriet he came to live there for the second time. As you remember, this was shortly after his return from Ireland (from his second visit) and just before he went to Lynmouth, Devon. It was at Nant Gwiltt he lived, going there after Shelley-like, traversing the whole of North and part of South Wales for a house; I think about the end of April, 1812. All I can say is that he chose well, for a more delightful valley than this Cwm Elan I never saw. I went to Nant Gwiltt House, and was referred to a certain old gardener of eighty-five. He did not know much [about the object of my enquiries]; but I had a most interesting conversation with his wife, an old woman of seventy-eight or so. She said that she had never heard of anybody of the name of Shelley; but that she knew the Groves, both the old gentleman and the young one. I take it that the young one was Shelley's friend. She carried the post-bag to the house when a little girl. I did not expect to get any information from her; but, as I was waiting for her husband, I asked her about the Groves. She said they had often visitors. I asked did she remember any of the young gentleman's visitors. She did not at first; but at last recollecting herself, said 'O! there was a very strange gentleman used to come here, he who put the £5 note on the boat.' This made me prick up my ears, remembering Hogg's tale about the £5 note Shelley set a-sailing on the Serpentine; and I asked her what she meant. It came out that this visitor, who must surely have been Shelley, used to do a great many strange things. He used to go about with a very long pole to keep out of the rocks and from the bank his little wooden boat, 'about so long—i.e. about a foot; and that she herself saw him put a £5 note on it to sail it [which got lost], but it was brought to him afterwards by a man. I showed her a likeness of Shelley, a bad one, in that little Dugdale's 2-vol. Shelley. She said it was something like him, and that he always used to keep his neck bare and his shirt open (just as he is always painted), but not so open as in the picture. She then remembered that he afterwards was there with his wife, and ladies, I think she said [Eliza Westbrook was with them], and that his wife was very pretty. She could not

exactly remember where they lived, but spoke of two houses, one of which it must have been (there are very few houses there), but she told me that she would find out more from her brother and another old man. . . . I will go again and find out the cottage which Shelley described as all covered with roses, I think, and in which he would have stayed longer if the farmer who owned it would have allowed him."

I feel sure your readers will think that this picture of the young poet with his "very long pole" and his boat and its costly paper-sail is not one to be lost. "Ipse ratem conto subigit, velisque ministrat" with a £5 note. In one of his letters he writes thus of the neighbourhood in which he presented this strange figure:—

"We are now embosomed in the solitude of mountains, woods, and rivers, silent, solitary, and old, far away from any town, six miles from Rhayader, which is nearest. A ghost haunts this house, which has frequently been seen by the servants. We have several witches in our neighbourhood, and are quite stocked with fairies and hobgoblins of every description."

In another, to Godwin, he speaks of "this scenery—mountains and rocks seeming to form a barrier round this quiet valley, which the tumult of the world may never overleap."

MAY 29, 1878.

ARMS OF THE JENKINSES.—Our esteemed contributor LLALLAWG asks, in *Notes and Queries* of May 18, to what family of the name of Jenkins in Wales the following arms and crest belong:—Arms: Party per pale, argent and sanguine, three fleurs-de-lis. Crest: Battle-axe on a wreath.

NOTES.

BALLOTING FOR THE MILITIA.—In 1860 the military ardour was strong all over the country, and Oswestry—as you have shewn (Nov. 17, 1875)—in common with the rest of the nation, had its volunteers. In 1846, the military ardour of the nation did not jump with the humour of the Government, who talked of a ballot for the militia, so clubs were established everywhere in order to provide funds to pay for substitutes. I have before me the following record of the meetings of a club formed in Oswestry:—

At a meeting held in the British School-room on Thursday evening, 29th January, 1846, resolved as follows:—

We, the undersigned, agree to form ourselves into a club for the purpose of providing substitutes for any one or more of us who shall be drawn for the militia.

A deposit of ten shillings to be paid down by each member at a future meeting to be called, and such further sum subsequently and before the ballot as shall hereafter be agreed upon.

If any member shall withdraw his name all deposits made by him shall be forfeited to the club.

The number of members to be limited to 100.

All sums contributed to be paid into the North and South Wales Bank in the names of such two members as shall hereafter be agreed upon.

When the ballot has taken place should any sum remain undisposed of the same shall be equally divided between the persons who shall then be members of the club.

The club to continue in existence till dissolved by the vote of a majority of the members present at a meeting to be called for the purpose of deciding that question.

That the next meeting be held on Thursday evening next, at 8 past 8 o'clock, at which time the first deposit shall be paid and officers shall be elected.

Dated the 29th January, 1846.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Frank Roberts | 7 Thos. Minshall |
| 2 Nath. Minshall, jun. | 8 Benjamin Roberts |
| 3 David Jameson | 9 Watkin Jones |
| 4 John Jones, hatter | 10 Thomas Jones |
| 5 Evan Hughes | 11 William Davies |
| 6 E. W. Thomas | 12 William Corney |

- 13 H. W. Jones, at Mr. Watkin Jones's
- 14 Edward Davies, Cross-street, baker
- 15 Robert Williams, Messrs. Williams and Lloyd's
- 16 John Lloyd, Ditto
- 17 Thomas Evans, at Messrs. Thomas and Son's
- 18 Thomas Gregory, Ditto
- 19 Charles G. Bayley, Cross
- 20 Samuel Evans, Shoe Warehouse
- 21 Evan Arthur, flour dealer, Cross
- 22 Wm. Owen, watchmaker
- 23 Thomas Jones, Messrs. Thomas and Son's
- 24 Richard Jones, hatter
- 25 Thomas H. Ellis, at Messrs. Jones and Fisher's
- 26 William Price, jun., stationer
- 27 J. J. Thomas, solicitor
- 28 Edward Morris, mercer
- 29 John Hughes, at Mr. Morris's, mercer
- 30 Thomas Roberts, at Mr. Lacon's
- 31 John Whitridge Davies, draper
- 32 John Morris, builder
- 33 John Windsor, machine maker
- 34 Thomas Edwards, currier
- 35 Edward Edwards, Ditto
- 36 John Davies, ironmonger
- 37 Rd. Evans, druggist
- 38 Wm. Morris, builder
- 39 Griffith Williams, joiner, Brook-street
- 40 Robt. Davies, C.G.W., Calvinistic Methodist minister
- 41 Jas. Vaughan, builder
- 42 Samuel Minshall, Messrs. Minshall & Sons
- 43 John Owen, Maesbury Canal Company
- 44 David Edwards, at Mr. Morris's, draper
- 45 Frederick Robinson, at Messrs. Bickerton and Saunders's
- 46 George Warren, solicitor, Weston

At a meeting held at the British School-room, Oswestry, on Thursday, February 5th, 1846,

Mr. E. W. Thomas in the chair,
Resolved—

That in consequence of an intimation of Mr. Sydney Herbert, Secretary at War, requesting that militia clubs should for the present suspend operations, we agree to remain together as a Society, but to deposit half-a-crown each only, instead of ten shillings, as the first deposit and to adjourn sine die.

Received four pounds and five shillings.

Proposed by Mr. Thos. Minshall, and seconded by Mr. Windsor, that Mr. Corney be secretary.

Carried unanimously.

Received the further sum of one pound seven shillings and sixpence.

The thirty years that have elapsed have wrought great changes. Quite half of those whose names are attached are dead, and the rest would fear no militia-drawing in the present year of grace!

JARCO.

QUERIES.

THE MERIONETHSHIRE HILLS.—Dear old Thomas Fuller, moralising, as few better knew how, on the wickedness and hollowness of the world in which he lived, thus writes:—"In Merionethshire in Wales there be many mountains whose hanging tops come so close together that shepherds, sitting on several mountains, may audibly discourse one with another. And yet they must go many miles before their bodies can meet together, by the reason of the vast hollow valleys which are betwixt them. Our sovereign and the members of his Parliament at London seem very near agreed in their general and public professions: both are for the Protestant religion; can they draw nearer? Both are for the privileges of Parliament; can they come closer? Both are for the liberty of the subject; can they meet ever? And yet, alas! there is a great gulf and vast distance betwixt them which our sins have made, and God grant that our sorrow may seasonably make it up again!" What mountains of Merionethshire had old Fuller in his mind when indulging in this simile?

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

PEZRON'S ANTIQUITIES OF NATIONS.—

The first English edition of this work, translated by D. Jones, was printed in London in 1706. In it is contained "The Epistle Dedicatory to the Right Honourable Charles, Lord Halifax, Auditor of the Receipt of Her Majesty's Exchequer," which is omitted in the revised edition of 1809. In his dedication the translator, addressing his Lordship, states,—“Your Memory will be revered by Posterity, as long as the courage of *England* shall bear the Impress of the late King of glorious memory, and whilst there are any remains of the public records, for the preservation and methodizing of which, nothing hath so much contributed as your Lordship's zeal and frequent inspection, whatever the rage and malice of a few turbulent, ungrateful and disaffected spirits may suggest to the contrary.” The second edition in which the translation is much improved was printed in 1809 for M. Jones, with this addition prefixed to the title.—“The Rise and Fall of States and Empires.” A sketch of the life of the author, not in the first edition, is added in the place of the Epistle Dedicatory. On a fly-leaf of my copy of the first edition is written a note of which the following is a transcript,—“A curious work of great value to the antiquary, particularly so in Celtic researches. Some of the author's remarks, nevertheless, on the different nations descended from Noah's sons must be taken with much reservation. Jacob Bryant refuted his opinion that the Western World derived its [illegible] from the Saccæ and Scythians beyond Media and Mount Imaus in the upper regions of Asia, and not from Babylonia and Egypt. V. New System of Mythology, Vol. 3, 1776 (Payne).” In connection with this investigation the following points suggest themselves for inquiry: was D. Jones, the original translator, connected with the public record office; and was he an ancestor of M. Jones for whom the second edition was printed; or otherwise, were they in any way related? The bibliographies which I have consulted are silent in respect to any information on these inquiries.

(2) T. Jones

LLALLAWG.

REPLIES.

AT A WELSH FUNERAL (May 1, 1878).—Some years ago my mother happened to be in St. Tudno's churchyard one day during a funeral, and observed one of the funeral party putting a thick layer of green rushes and ferns over the coffin. Upon enquiry she was told by a bystander that it was to prevent the stones in the soil from breaking the coffin-lid as the grave was filled up. Knowing your thirst for information of all kinds, she has been urging me to pass on this trifling little piece.

M.F.

Wolverhampton.

THE CONFSSIONAL IN CHURCHES (May 8, 1878).—There were no confessional-boxes until a late date. I have never seen an example in England. One which is so called in a church in Wiltshire, I found to be simply a reading pew made up of old materials in the 17th century. There were two kinds of confession, one solemn which was made on Ash-Wednesday outside the Lent veil which was hung outside the chancel screen; the other, private, or daily, when confession was made to the parish priest; both were made in an open place, visibly, but of course not audibly. I have given the rules, law, and facts in my Sacred Archaeology, and notes to my edition of the Canons of 1603. There is sometimes a chair in the south transept of parish churches, near a window, which is supposed to have been used for the purpose of private confession. The Canon Law expressly forbids in England confession in secret, dark, or hidden places; [*Lyndw. lib. v., tit. 16, p. 331.*] and a constitution of the Primate extended to all parts of

his province, including Wales. [*Id.* tit. 5, p. 297.] At Lenham there is a single armed-chair in the chancel with a lower seat on the western side. The shriving pew is mentioned in 1515 at St. Margaret's Pattens, in London. At Warwick there is a confessional with a lattice on the south side of the chair. At Shalford and Aylestone there are foliated openings in the rood screen which is otherwise plain. The usual place was a seat on the north east side of the chancel. A cell-like chamber at Hoar Abbey, Cashel, and a wall recess at Galway and Aghaboe are said to have been confessionals. On the continent Urban IV., 1263, ordered locutoria ad confessiones to be made of strong iron work. Erasmus mentions lattices (*laminæ foraminosæ*) for the purpose. Bertram in 1781, ordered the Spanish confessionals to be placed in sight of the people. In Italy and the south of France in the 16th century, and in Normandy in the following century boxes were introduced. There is a confessional of white marble in the Church of the Knights of S. John at Florence.

MACKENZIE E. C. WALCOTT.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE HONOURABLE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY.

LECTURE ON DAFYDD AB GWILYM.

A meeting of this Society was held in the Freemasons' Tavern, London, on Wednesday evening, May 29, when Professor Cowell, M.A., of the University of Cambridge, delivered a lecture upon "Dafydd ab Gwilym." There was a large company present, and Mr. B. T. Williams, Q.C., M.P., occupied the chair. He said that it was originally intended that the Bishop of St. David's should preside at the meeting, and he heartily regretted that circumstances had rendered his lordship unable to be present on the occasion. This was the more unfortunate, because the Bishop had been an ardent student of Welsh literature. For himself, he could only say that he did not profess to have any great acquaintance with the ancient literature of the Cymry, but from what he knew he believed that the poetry of Dafydd ab Gwilym was more likely to be attractive to modern readers than any of the other old Welsh poets. They had often been challenged by the English people to point out in the Welsh literature anything that might be called real poetry, and in answer to that challenge they might advance the sweet lyrics of Ab Gwilym. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to see a man of the culture and position of Professor Cowell come forward to do justice to the literature and history of the Welsh people, and he would simply now do his duty by introducing to them his distinguished friend. (Cheers.)

Professor COWELL, who was received with applause, said he felt some hesitation in coming before them that evening as he was a foreigner to Wales and to the Welsh language, but there were two considerations which led him to venture on the subject of Dafydd ab Gwilym. The first was that he knew the Welsh were always generous to foreigners who tried to master the language. (Hear, hear.) He thought that perhaps a foreigner's remarks might be interesting because he always looked at a subject from a different point of view from the native. The other reason which induced him to address them was that he had found from his experience that old Welsh poetry was not always known even by those who were masters of the modern Welsh language, and therefore, after his seven years study, he might be able to say something about the harder parts of the poetry which some of his audience might not thoroughly have

understood. The way in which he had turned his attention to the poems of Ab Gwilym was that he was drawn to the Welsh from its connection with Sanscrit. He naturally turned to the Celtic language as being one of the oldest representative Indo-European languages after the Sanscrit. The Celtic languages were now found on the rim of Europe, which meant that the Celtic tribes came first, and were gradually driven outwards, step by step, until they reached the furthest limits of Europe. This showed that they came in first, and were therefore the most ancient. After he (the lecturer) had learned Welsh for the purposes of comparative philology, he began to think of reading it for pleasure, and he had found one poet who was really great—one worthy of being known in all Europe. This one was Dafydd ab Gwilym. (Cheers.) He was born about 1340, and died somewhere about 1400, the events of which period were of a very stirring nature. Then commenced the great schism of the west, which was not settled until 1418. Another great event was the commencement of the hundred years' struggle between England and France, which began in 1337 under Edward the Third, and did not finish until the reign of Henry the Sixth. That was the war which began to unite the peoples of England and Wales, and he felt much interested when in Ab Gwilym's works he came across an echo of the struggles, of which there were only one or two. He did not believe the legends which were circulated respecting the great Welsh bard. He was not the only poet about whom legends had risen up. Virgil, Shakespeare, and others, about whose lives very little was known, had all become the subjects of hundreds of legends which served to fill up the blanks. If they looked at Ab Gwilym's life as it was told in the legends it was a painful one, because he appeared as a person to whom they could pay but little respect, in consequence of his self-indulgence and amours with different people. It had been said that Ab Gwilym was well acquainted with Homer, but this was impossible. The study of Greek died away between 1370 and 1380 in Italy, and surely therefore it could not then have spread to the land of Britain. In fact it lay out of his world just in the same way as it had lain out of the world—Dante's world. He (Professor Cowell) was led to have a different view of the Welsh poet's life from that represented in the legends by his acquaintance with Provençal literature. This was in its glory from about 1150 to 1290, and at that time the poetry of the troubadours gave the laws of taste to all Europe. Its influence could be traced in the early literature of Spain, Italy, France, Germany, and partly even in England. Well, the poems of Ab Gwilym bore a great resemblance to the Provençal chansons, with the exception that they were far more original. Examples of this resemblance were found in the description of battles between him and other bards, dialogues between two lovers, or two rivals, the most stirring being the "Maiden," the "Bard's Shadow," and the "Cuckoo," parallels to which were to be found amongst the productions of the Provençal poets. Dafydd ab Gwilym seemed to have borrowed the Provençal idea and then reproduced it in a new way by means of his own great genius. This influence also he believed must bear the blame of the immoral shadow which hung over so much of his poetry. He did not believe there was anything really guilty about his life, and amongst the few historical facts which he could produce to support this supposition was one given in Mr. Pughe's edition of the poet's compositions. It was a quotation from Watkin Powell, who lived in 1580, and was as follows:—"From all accounts, which he could learn of Dafydd, his life was remarkable, because he was such a

sober, quiet, and steady man; and it was very difficult to get him to talk on any subject, because he was so very reserved and quiet." (Hear, hear.) His (the lecturer's) idea was that he had learned somehow or other the poetry of the Provencals, and introduced the style into Wales, where it became a new, and for a time, a popular poetry. Again, all his poems seemed to be so original and so striking by the absence of any references to classical mythology. His heroic age was that of Arthur and the Round Table. Another interesting fact was that he was an exact contemporary of their English Chaucer, and he had no doubt that a careful comparison of the two poets would bring out many illustrations of each. He was especially a poet of the fancy, and a peculiar feature was the enthusiastic outpourings of his emotions when they were once roused by his subject. At such a time there was something almost Shakespearian in his rapid flow of imagery. In conclusion, Professor Cowell said there was no good edition of Dafydd ab Gwilym's works, several of his poems not being published at all, and surely Wales was bound to do for its great poet what other nations had done for theirs. They ought to publish a good edition from the best MSS. He thanked his audience sincerely for the kind way in which they had listened to his remarks, and he could assure them that all the pains which the Welsh language had cost him to acquire had been amply repaid by the interest he had felt in the works of Dafydd ab Gwilym. (Cheers.)

The Rev. ROBERT JONES, vicar of Rotherhithe in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said he was sure that if Welsh literature were digged and delved into, a store of richness and beauty would be discovered which would astonish their English friends.

GWRGANT seconded the proposition, which was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN said that he was glad to see the Cymmrodor Society again waking into activity. Its objects were to promote the interests of the Welsh language, literature, &c., and they hoped soon to be in a position to lend a helping hand to any of their countrymen who might require it. This latter was a feature which they had long admired in the constitution of the Scottish Corporation, and he was glad that the time was at hand when they would be able to show their Scotch friends that the Welsh people did not intend to be behind in a good cause, such as the one he had referred to.

During the course of his lecture Professor Cowell read several specimens of Ab Gwilym's poetry, to the evident gratification of his hearers.

WEATHER LORE.—After the splashing May we have had this year, the following bits of the wisdom of our ancestors will be interesting:—

"A dry March and a wet May,
Will give a right good stack of hay."

"When the oak precedes the ash
Then you'll only get a splash,
But when the ash precedes the oak
Then expect a good down soak."

These have been often published, but the following, which was repeated to my informant by a gentleman in Oswestry as far back as 1815, I fail to find in any collection of weather proverbs:—

"When the clay doth feed the sand
Then 'tis well for old England,
But when the sand doth feed the clay
Then old England rue the day." M.G.

JUNE 5, 1878.

NOTES.

AGRICULTURE IN ANGLESEY.—The *Sporting Magazine* for Feb., 1815, says:—"So extensive have been the agricultural improvements in Anglesey, by inclosing and draining, that snipes and wild ducks, formerly so plentiful in that part of the country, have this year totally disappeared. F.T."

Y DDYBACCO.—The following Welsh poem, by an Archdeacon of Merioneth, is from the St. Beuno's Coll. MS. H.W.L.

Dail hirion crinion, nid cryno—mo'u dull,
A thrwy ei dwl i sugno;
Ffri o'r anadl yw froenio,
Mwg wr gwrs a meglin go.

Dau gynydd y sydd yn suddo—bonedd,
Yn benna' tybacco;
A'r ail fydd ar ei ol fo,
Caru eisus carwsio.

Baria carwsfa crasfwg—o'r bibell,
A'r bobl rhudd ddrwg;
Lle gwelech hyllu golwg,
Chwith yw'r modd a chwythu mwg.

Tra tych byw a gwych, heb gŵr—nag anydd,
Na gwenwyn na llafur;
Nac arfer, drwy'sychder sŵr,
Mwg dail, rhag magu dolur

EDMWNT PRYS a'i kant.

QUERIES.

OLD CHURCH TREASURES AT NEWTOWN.

In *Arch. Camb.*, Jan. 1850, "W." writes to ask what has been done about the ancient rood-screen belonging to this church, also the fate of the altar, with its "slab of veined marble," and the "altar-piece, painted and presented by Dyer, the poet, the subject being The Last Supper?" No answer appeared. Where are they all now? I have not been in Newtown for many years. Is the Old Church still standing? H. B.

REPLIES.

ON THE LOCALITY OF MACKERFIELD.

(May 22, 1878.)

The remaining topics of Mr. Littler's argument are, for the most part, so interwoven together that it may be difficult to take them separately. I propose to deal with them, therefore, in the order in which they naturally occur in the course of my argument. And, as the latter part of Mr. Littler's reasoning turns very much upon the direction that might naturally have been taken in the invasion of Northumbria from Mercia by Penda, I will commence with examining his hypothesis, and the manner in which he brings it to bear upon the conclusion he seeks to establish. "Oswestry," he says, "is 40 miles within the territory of Penda, the sovereign of Mercia. . . . Why should Oswald and Penda be fighting at that remote corner of Penda's dominions, unless like duellists they had gone to an obscure corner to have it out privately? But Winwick is in the direct high road of an enemy advancing from Mercia upon an antagonist in Northumbria." Then he proceeds to infer that because the Derbyshire hills on the east, and the Mersey, the Marshes, and Chat Moss on the west, would present impassable barriers to an army invading Northumbria out of Mercia, therefore Oswald would probably have been slain at Winwick, near which has been discovered part of a Roman road running in a

northerly direction, rather more than half a mile to the W. of the Church, while the site of St. Oswald's Well is rather more than half-a-mile to the E. of the direction this Roman road would pursue. It will be seen at once that this argument is entirely hypothetical, and proceeds on the assumption that the battle in, or consequent whereupon, St. Oswald lost his life, was fought during the progress of an invasion of the Northumbrian territory by Penda towards the north. But the facts of history, so far as they have come down to us, militate wholly against such an assumption, and point really in the opposite direction. To show this it will be necessary to go back a little, so as to trace the course of events from the commencement of the strife up to the date of the last engagement. We must look to the origin of the respective kingdoms of Mercia and Northumbria, and the causes which led Welsh princes to be mixed up in the conflict.

It will be remembered that, about the middle of the foregoing century, the Saxon kingdom of Northumbria had been established by Ida, called by the British *Fflamdwyn*, or the Flame bearer, who landed in England A.D. 547, and, after a series of well-fought and bloody engagements, in which he and his Angles were opposed by the heroes of Taliesin's song, Urien Rheged, and his son Owen, by the latter of whom he was at length slain, had succeeded in bringing under his own sovereignty the Cymric territory of Bryneich, called by the chroniclers who wrote in Latin Bernicia, which comprised the county of Northumberland and the south-east coast of Scotland, as far as the Forth: and by Ella, or Alla, whose followers were also Angles, who established himself in Deifr, latinized into Deira, which included the counties of Durham, Westmoreland, York and Lancaster. These two states appear to have coalesced before the beginning of the 7th century. It is said by some that Ida succeeded in uniting the two territories of Bernicia and Deira into one kingdom, and that at his death they were again separated by Ella, who seized upon Deira for himself. It is certain, however, that Ethelfrith, the grandson of Ida, found himself at his succession in possession of Bernicia only; and that Edwin, the son of Ella, who was an infant of three years old at the death of his father, was forcibly ejected by Ethelfrith from his kingdom of Deira. The child, according to the Welsh Bruts, was carried into North Wales, and educated at the court of Cadvan, King of Gwynedd, together with his own son Cadwallawn. Grown to man's estate, we find him again at the court of Ethelfrith, possibly in consequence of the introduction of a condition to that effect into the terms of the peace made between the latter and Cadvan, who, if the Welsh Bruts are to be believed, had pursued Ethelfrith into the north after the victory gained over him on the Dee by the united forces of the Welsh princes in reparation of the disaster at Bangor Iscoed. According to a paper by Mr. Boyd Dawkins in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* (iv. 236, 4th Series) "in all probability South Lancashire was occupied by the English at this time," when "the British Welsh inhabitants were either put to the sword or compelled to become the bondsmen of the conquerors." Thus the establishment of a royal residence in the neighbourhood of Winwick, even prior to St. Oswald, is fully accounted for, but it does not seem to have occurred to Mr. Littler that the local tradition to that effect, taken in combination with the inscription on the Church, militates rather against the hypothesis of his death there than for it. "Time was," says the inscription, "when this place, Oswald, pleased thee well." Why? Because he was slain there? Is the ghost of a murdered man supposed to haunt the spot where he was murdered simply because

he liked it? But the inscription proceeds to say, "Who hadst been king of the Northumbrians, and now possessest the kingdom of the skies, *having suffered in a meadow called Mercelde.*" Does this look like a reference to a place close to Winwick, itself within the very district of Mackerfield, in which, by the hypothesis, he was slain? On the contrary, the allusion to the "*meadow called Mercelde*" is in the style of one who refers to a distant spot; while the word '*prato*,' meadow, seems to agree well with the Codoy of Nennius in giving a distinctive character to the spot, namely, of a wood near water. Edwin, whose life was endangered by the jealousy of Ethelfrith, after a term of houseless wanderings, threw himself on the protection of Redwald, king of E. Anglia, who received him hospitably, but, at length, pressed by Ethelfrith, first with bribes, and then with threats of war, consented to betray his guest. Warned by a friend, Edwin, meditating one night in front of the palace on his dismal future, is said to have been consoled by the vision of a person who told him that if he would follow the admonitions of one who should teach him the way of salvation, he should excel in power not only his own ancestors, but all who had ever been kings in England. Then, laying his hand upon his head, he added, 'When this sign shall be given thee, remember this hour and this discourse.' The sign was afterwards recalled to his recollection by St. Paulinus, when Edwin, after the defeat and death of Ethelfrith at the battle of the Idle in A.D. 617, had been restored to his throne, and extended his conquests so far, that they included even the islands of Mona and Man. Through the agency of St. Paulinus he became a Christian, and married, for his second wife, St. Ethelburga, daughter of Ethelbert, the first Christian King of Kent. We then find him at war with Cadwallawn, Prince of Gwynedd, and by the election of the Cymry, Sovereign Paramount of Britain; but, as to the cause of their warfare, the history is so vague and meagre as it has come to us through the Saxon Chroniclers, and, through the Welsh, so entangled with fable, as to leave but little that can be relied on as truth. It appears certain, however, that Cadwallawn was in the first instance so thoroughly discomfited by Edwin that he was chased by him into Wales, and compelled to flee into Ireland, where it is stated in a Triad that he remained for seven years, during which his dominions must have remained in possession of Edwin; so that it would seem not impossible that the settlement of Angles in Flintshire (in Teg Eingl, the fair Angles), and in Anglesey (the Isle of Angles) may have dated originally from his reign, and subsequently only from those of Egbert, or Edgar, and that from him Edwin, the founder of one of the Noble Tribes of North Wales, may have derived his name.

Cadwallawn, say the Bruts, now took refuge with Selyf, or Solomon, King of Armorica, returned to Britain, and encountered Penda, King of Mercia, whom he defeated and took prisoner, (a) but having afterwards united with him, and married his sister, they jointly attacked Edwin, and defeated and slew him. The spot where the battle was fought is stated, by both the Saxon and Welsh Chroniclers, to have been Hethfelth, that is, Hatfield Chase in Yorkshire; two, however, excepted, Nennius and *Annales Cambriæ*, who place it at Meigen or Meiceren in Powysland. Nennius has "*bellum Meicen*" in which he says Edwin and his sons were slain "*ab exercitu Catgwallauniregis Gwenedote regionis,*" and the *Ann. Cambriæ*, A.D., 630, "*Gueith Meiceren* (MS. B has '*Bellum Meigen*') *et ibi interfectus est Etguin cum duobus filiis suis: Catgwallaun autem victor fuit.*" In the Elegy of

(a)—*Four Ancient Books of Wales* Vol. 1, ch. 5, p. 69.

Cadwallawn the contemporary Bard, Llywarch Hen, names Meigen as the site of one of his battles. But, as he mentions only that Meigen was burnt, and is silent on the death of Edwin, he can hardly be said altogether to confirm the account of the Chronicles. He speaks, however, of two other encampments of Cadwallawn, one on the Severn, and the other on Mynydd Digoll, the Long Mountain. (b) Both are near enough to Oswestry to prove that its neighbourhood was the scene of more than one battle-field between the Cymry and the Saxons; an important fact, because, as has been well remarked, "history repeats itself;" and the same neighbourhood which witnessed the defeat, and perhaps also the death of Edwin, may, by a natural consequence, have witnessed also the defeat and death of Oswald. There is further confirmation of this in the life of Oswald himself; but the rest of my remarks will better, perhaps, be reserved for another paper.

H.W.L.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(April 17, 1878.)

BACHE, HENRY, son of William Bache, was born at Newport, in Shropshire. He was educated at Westminster school, and in 1717 elected thence to Cambridge. What became of him afterwards is not known with certainty, but a person of his name, and a Salopian, in 1730 wrote out a manuscript account of Newport, and he is believed to be the same person.

BACHE, SHERINGTON, a native of Newport in Salop, and brother of the last named, was also educated at Westminster school, and was elected in 1717 to Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1720, and in 1736 was perpetual curate of Ardwick in Yorkshire: according to some manuscript notes written by a gentleman who had known him, he is stated to have been "a remarkable man, very learned, an admirable Grecian, and a powerful preacher," but so far as we know he never published any work.

BAGLEY, EDWARD, was born in the neighbourhood of Wem, in Shropshire, about the year, 1743, and is supposed to have been educated at the Grammar School of that town. There was a youth of that name living at Wem in 1756, who wrote some elegant Latin verses, and is said to be the same individual, but the verification of this fact is chiefly based upon a small MS. book of Latin poetry bound up with a volume of "The Fables of Phædrus construed for the use of Wem School by Samuel Garbet, M.A.," and published at Shrewsbury in 1733. The MS. ends with "Edwardus Bagley Ejus Libri Anno Domini 1756." This same sharp Latined lad left England in 1762, and settled in the American State of Pennsylvania, and fifteen Latin essays of his, written in a free hand, were collected into a volume, and dedicated by him to his "Countryman, Richard Swanwick," who left Shropshire to settle in New England, and, in the light of

subsequent history, it appears that he had mastered the principles of "Confederation," and was prepared to sustain in argument the Republican form of Government as superior to our own Monarchical system. This remarkable book was preserved with care by Capt. Richard Swanwick, of Wem Hall, upon his return to England, and at his death it passed into the hands of the Rev. Charles Wesley, who was a friend of his mother's. Mr. Bagley was slain during the American War, having cast in his lot with the Republicans of that country, but there does not appear to have been any record preserved of his services in any historical work published in America.

BAGNALL, GIBBON, was a native of Herefordshire, son of a gentleman of the same name, a descendant of the two old Border families of Gibbon and Bagnall. He was educated at Westminster School, and Balliol College, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree. He oddly enough takes his M.A. at Cambridge in 1760. In 1767 he became a prebendary at Hereford, and in 1783, canon residentiary. He also was vicar of Holme Lacy, and of Upton Bishop, in the same county, for upwards of fifty-seven years. He died in 1800, aged 81. A work entitled "Telamachus Translated into English verse," by him, was published in 1790.

BAILEY, EDWARD, born at Chester in the year 1758, is deserving of mention as a King's scholar who gained a high reputation as a chorister at Chester Cathedral. He rivalled his brother John (who follows) in the richness of his voice, and possibly in musical taste also, but being his brother's pupil and assistant, we must not put him above his master. He succeeded his brother in 1803 as chief organist to the cathedral church of his native city. That office he held for twenty years, and dying in 1830, he was buried in the ancient fabric he had loved and served so well. Mr. Bailey married Bridget Bowcock, daughter to a local miniature painter of repute, who had at one time been engaged as a painter at the celebrated china factory at Bow. Mrs. Bailey partook largely of her father's talents, and Chester antiquarians have to thank her pencil for numerous sketches of local objects of great interest, most of the originals having long since perished. The sister arts of music and painting are thus identified with the name of Edward Bailey at Chester.

BAILEY, JAMES, a native of Herefordshire, and who died at Ledbury in 1674, is mentioned in some of the local records of that county, as a remarkable instance of longevity, he being at the time of his death "aged one hundred years and eight months;" but it is more remarkable that two of his brothers, Humphrey and Samuel, had also lived to a great age, for the three brothers lived to the age of three hundred years; what one wanted, the other made up. James was moreover a shrewd man of the world, and very fond of dabbling in poetry, in short he had the *awen*, as the Welsh term it, the gift of making verses whenever he was called upon to do so.

BAILEY, JOHN, elder brother of Edward Bailey, was born at Chester in the year 1749. He loved music from childhood, and possessing an excellent soprano voice, he was received into the Choir of Chester Cathedral at the early age of seven, as a probationer; in 1760 he was duly installed a chorister, and had a foundation scholarship given to him at the King's School. Under proper tuition he soon became a proficient in the art of music, delighting the lovers of anthem singing by the admirable manner in which he fulfilled his part of that noble service of praise. He was articulated to Mr. Edward Orme, the then organist, and continued to be his assistant till 1776, when the Dean and Chapter promoted him to the

(b)—Lluest Cadwallawn ar Hafren,
Ac o'r tu draw i Dyden,
A breiaid yn llosgi Meigen.

Lluest Cadwallawn glodrydd,
Yngwarthaf Digoll Fynydd,
Seith-mis a seith-gad beunydd.

An encampment of Cadwallawn on Severn,
And on the farther side of Dyden,
And men of action burning Meigen.

An encampment of Cadwallawn the renowned,
At the foot of the Digoll mountain,—
Seven months, and seven fights daily.

chief post, just then vacated by his old master. The dignified office he held with credit and distinction till his death in 1803. He composed several anthems and chants, which held their place in the public worship of God for long after he had ceased to take any part in them on earth. There is a monument to his memory placed in the Cathedral Church with which he had been so happily connected.

BAILEY, PETER, was the son of a solicitor, of Nantwich, Cheshire, and after being educated at Rugby and Merton College, Oxford, entered himself at the Temple with the view of studying for the bar. He gave more attention however to literature than to the law. He wrote "Sketches from St. George's-in-the-Fields," "Idwal," a poem in the Spenserian stanza called "A Queen's Appeal," and other works. He died in 1823.

BAILEY, THOMAS, son of Edward Bailey, already named, by Bridget, his wife, was born at Chester in the year 1806, an artist by profession, he followed in the wake of his mother and her father, and many are the proofs of his correct taste in the sketches he made of the quaint buildings which at one time helped to make up that "rare old Chester," so often honoured by the praises of loving writers. He contributed several illustrations to Hemingway's "History of Chester," to the "Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society," and to other publications: some of his handy work are re-productions of his mother's clever genius; the highest tribute he could pay to that loving friend, who had guided his infant mind in so elevating a pursuit. It is worthy of remembrance that he was the first to introduce lithography into Chester—that he did in conjunction with Mr. Richard Owen, a Salopian by birth, but long a resident in that city. Mr. Bailey died in Chester, and is buried at the cemetery there.

BAKER, JAMES, a native of Ross, in Herefordshire, is buried near the north door of the beautiful church of that most interesting town, and his name and memory must be very dear to the poor inhabitants of that place, for out of the love he had to the needy and distressed, he at his death left the handsome sum of £20,000, the annual interest of which should go for ever to their relief.

BAKER, THOMAS, of Swinney, in the parish of Oswestry, was born in Shropshire 1607, and although his birth was comparatively humble, he rose to a high position both in the county and in the nation. In 1649 he was sheriff of his county, and when Cromwell came to power he was chosen by him as one of the representatives of that shire in Parliament. It is said by Gough that "he behaved himself among the gentlemen of the county with much commendation and even to admiration," which is the more remarkable, seeing that he was a great supporter of Vavasor Powell and other extreme Nonconformists, and that he was so heterodox as to preach in his own house. He certainly adopted a strange method of making himself popular, for we are told that when the people who attended the services in his house departed, "they had every one a quarter of a twopenny bun or cake and about half-a-pint of beer." He died in 1675.

BAKER, THOMAS, was born at Meole, otherwise Meole Brace, near, Shrewsbury, and wrote a book on angling, which was published in 1691 under the title of "Baker's Delight or the Art of Angling." It ran through three editions in the space of eight years, and is still in great repute among the lovers of the "gentle art." Not unjustly so, for he lacked neither art, nor heart, to commend himself to such of his countrymen who make angling a study as well as pleasure, and who find in the pursuit of it the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with nature,

and then rise beyond it, to the higher contemplation of the Divine mystery which though hidden to mortal ken, is ever present in the soul of those who can see "God in everything."

BALDWIN, TIMOTHY, was born at Burwarton, in Shropshire, and was educated at Balliol College, Oxford. In 1640 he became fellow of All Souls, being then A.B., and two years afterwards he proceeded to LL.D. In 1660 he was made principal of Hart Hall, Oxford, and subsequently Chancellor of Hereford and of Worcester. He had been presented to the Welsh living of Llandrillo yn Rhos in 1647, but he appears to have resigned that living in 1660, upon obtaining the higher dignity already alluded to.

JUNE 12, 1878.

NOTES.

CWM CERWIN.—There is a place near Dinsylwy, Anglesea, called Nant Dihenyd, where tradition says the Romans killed the Christians by putting them in barrels having long iron spikes through, and then rolled them over the precipice. There is a similar tradition connected with *Cwm Cerwin*, about Nant Nantlle, Carnarvonshire, which was given in the *Carnarvon Herald*, July 24, 1847. If anyone who can gain access to the files of this paper would copy the tradition for *Bye-gones* it would be interesting. I don't think it appears elsewhere. G.G.

QUERIES.

HUGH THOMAS OF HENDREF.—In reading *Real Pictures of Clerical Life in Ireland* I have come up to the following passage to which perhaps you will give place in your *Bye-gones*. I feel no doubt that the young officer here spoken of, who met his death in a duel, was Mr. Hugh Thomas of Hendref, Llwyngwili. I have often heard my mother speak of him, and of the manner of his death. He was, I believe, a gentleman commoner of Jesus College, Oxford, at the same time as Sir Robert Williams Vaughan and his two brothers, Col. Salisbury and Col. Vaughan; and he had a large property, which must have been divided into many shares at his death. I imagine that the gentleman who went in search of his grave must have been Col. Anwyl of Bala.

One October evening at Kinsale, a stranger called at the vicarage, and introduced himself as a Welshman, who finding himself in Ireland, had run down to our quaint old town with the intention of discovering, if it were possible, in what portion of the large churchyard of St. Mullose might be found the grave of a kinsman of his family, who some 60 years before had been slain in a duel by a brother officer, and who was buried there. He had to return by the evening train to Cork, and our search proved ineffectual; however, I ascertained that a very old man, living in the Gift House, an institution in whose rows of small houses some poor, old, respectable, yet decayed persons, lived, and were supported by a small weekly grant, could throw some light on the subject. Poor old Thomas Hyatt was reading his large Bible by the aid of glasses and a tallow candle, as I entered. He was an aged shoemaker, one of the happiest, most simple-minded believers that I have ever met. Hyatt was exceedingly deaf, and when we both entered his little room, and asked whether he remembered the circumstance referred to, he at once said that he did, and told that the poor officer was buried in the corner of St. Mullose churchyard, as you enter from the large gate. An old officer also recollected the occurrence. It was too late for the stranger to stay, so I found out the grave, and copied the inscription for him, and sent it to him.

The slain officer was a young captain in a regiment of foot, and the man who shot him was a captain in the same regiment; the latter was a wild, reckless, dissipated man. Some trifling dispute about one of their servants, led to a challenge, and they both

met. The murdered officer was of quiet gentlemanly demeanour, and much esteemed in the regiment. His opponent was afterwards killed in a duel in Paris.

"I remember well the funeral of the young officer as it came down the Barrack Hill; many a tear was shed that day for the poor young fellow, and the churchyard was filled to overflowing. Ah, sir! the sight was a sore one; to think of that fine young man hurried into the awful presence of his God." And old Hyatt crossed his hands on his knees, and relapsed into meditation.

If your valuable correspondent "W." can give any confirmation of my surmises on this subject, and still more, if he can furnish further particulars he will add much to the interest of the extract I send you. M.A.

REPLIES.

MACHYNLLETH—*The Mansion of the Owen family* (May 1, 1878).—The house of John Owen is not known to exist. He was Mayor of Machynlleth in 36 Eliz., and a magistrate for Montgomeryshire in 44 of same reign. His eldest son Richard, who died in, or immediately about, 1627, was of Morben, now called Morben Lodge, near Machynlleth. The pedigree of John Owen's representatives will be found in the supplement to Burke's *Landed Gentry*, edition of 1849, page 206. By his second wife, Gaynor, dau. of Rees Thomas, Esq., of Carnarvon, he was ancestor to the Pughes, of Cwm Rhaidr, in the parish of Machynlleth. W.

JUNE 19, 1878.

NOTES.

A PREES MISER.—On Sunday, Mar. 6, 1803, there died in the village of Prees, Salop, a recluse named Booth, supposed to be between 40 and 50 years of age, and known to possess some amount of property. He had lived for 20 years in a miserable hut, the roof of which had fallen in some months before his death; and he denied himself almost the common necessities of life. He was more than 6 feet in height, but very effeminate looking. After his death a box was discovered containing upwards of thirty love-letters and valentines, which had been addressed to him in happier days by more than one female admirer: also money and bonds to the amount of nearly £500. G.

Wem, Salop.

QUERIES.

WELSH JUDGES.—In a local newspaper, dated March 10, 1802, I find a couple of tables, showing the circuits of the judges of England and Wales for the Lent Assizes. In those days the "twelve judges" did not sit in Wales, and the following are the gentlemen who did:—

Chester: James Mansfield and Francis Burton, Esqs.
Caermarthen: John Lloyd and S. Compton Cox, Esqs.
North Wales: T. M. Sutton and Robert Steele, Esqs.
Brecon: Hon. G. Hardinge, and Abel Moysey, Esqs.

Were these gentlemen always on the same circuit, or did they change their circuits like the English judges? When were Chester and Wales included in the English circuits? In the same year I find the same judges in the same places on the Summer Circuit, with the exception of "T. M. Sutton," for whom is substituted "H. Leicester."—TAFKY.

CHARLES PINDAR.—Near the south side of the chancel of Llanymynech Church is an inscription on a marble tablet, as follows: "Here lyeth the body of Charles Pindar, Esquire, second son of Sir Peter Pindar, of Edinshaw, in ye county of Chester, Baronnet, Barrister at Law, of ye Inner Temple, London, Recorder of

ye Ancient Corporation of Great Wenlock, in ye County of Salop, who died Aug. 30, 1692, in ye three and thirtieth year of his age." The wording of the inscription is certainly ambiguous, implying in the former portion that the father was the barrister and recorder, a supposition the age of Charles appears to support. He is said to have died while on a visit to Sir Thomas Jones, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who then resided at Carreghova Hall. What is known of the Pindar family, and of this Charles and Peter Pindar, and also of his friend Sir Thomas Jones? The communion plate of the church was presented by Thomas Jones; can any reader say whether it was Sir Thomas or another person? LERTWEF.

REPLIES.

ROBERT AP HOWELL OF OSWESTREE (July 14, 1875).—Will 1541 (36 Alenger) Robert ap Howell of Oswestree draper . . . "my body to be buried in our Lady Chappell wthin the paryshe church of Oswestree. . . . Item my will is that my executor dos bestowe after my decesse a lode of Leade towards the coveringe of the Roffe of thaltaries of the Roode and saint Katherin within the paryshe Church of Oswestree aforesaid and the same to be delyveride at the tyme the forsaide Roffe be reddeye builde to receive coveringe . . . to the lighte maynteynde and observe by the Fryers occupation wthin the church aforesaid iii^{or} Torches. . . . Sister Margaret . . . Sonne Thomas" Witness "John Pryce Clarke and parsonne of Wittinton" etc. J.C.C.S.

[The above will be found a more complete extract from the will of Robert ap Howell, than the one given at the date mentioned. Our correspondent adds, in a note, that no surnames are given to Sister Margaret, &c.—Ed.]

PUNISHMENT BY BURNING (Jan. 23, 1878).—"1647. Dec. 23. A woman was burnt in the Dingle in the Quarry for poisoning her husband. (Phillips's *Shrewsbury*, p. 211.) Your readers will see that in this case the crime punished was the same as that recorded in Cheshire. SCROBBES BYRIG.

[A record of this transaction, preserved in manuscript, states that the woman was "burnt behind the walls, for poisoning her husband, in the Dingle," and that her name was Foxall.—Ed.]

OSWESTRY THEATRE (Apr. 24, 1878).—The following is a copy of an advertisement in the Shrewsbury papers of Nov., 1802:—

OSWESTRY NEW THEATRE.

On Nov. 10 will be performed, *The Birth Day*; with the Grand Dramatic Romance of *Blue Beard*. With appropriate scenery, dresses, and decorations. It will be repeated on Friday and Monday for the last time. Boxes 3s., Pit 2s., Gallery 1s.

* Nothing under full price.

A week later *The Way to Get Married* was performed, "by desire of the Oswestry Rangers." This "Oswestry New Theatre," was, I presume, the one situate in Lower Brook-street, referred to now-a-days as the *Old Theatre*. N.W.S.

NASH POINT (Jan. 23, Feb. 6, Apr. 17, 1878).—There is no particular place in Llandysil, known to bear the name of Pant-y-rhasis at present, but in the adjoining parish of Penbryn there is a *llawbrant* so named, situated between Cwmcoednarth and Sailach, where there is a depression in the surface of the ground formed by nature, of nearly half a mile in length. It consists of a level plane along the middle of which the road from Cwmcoednarth to Sailach passes. Along that road in olden times the teams employed in conveying culm and lime from Llangranog used to travel. In those days of rural simplicity

the carts of many of the surrounding agriculturists proceeded in company, numbering at times forty or fifty, when a spirit of rivalry as to the possession of the fleetest and best oxen and horses on the road greatly prevailed. Among those who then worked oxen as well as horses in their carts was Davies of Cwmcoednarth, a person strong and able in body, mind, and means, one of a class of yeomen well nigh extinct in the country. He prided himself with being the owner of five carts of superior make and form, with oxen and horses, of exquisite shape and vigorous spirit combined with remarkable docility, to draw them. The oxen were of the pure Welsh breed of black cattle with extended horns inclining upwards with an elegant curve, and of prodigious strength, being between five and ten years old, and well kept. Pant-y-rhais being level, and the road along it straight, was deemed a suitable locality for trial of fleetness between the various teams: and hence the origin of the name, compounded of the Welsh *pant* and the English *races*, which it bears, given to it time beyond memory. But Tynnewydd is the name by which the house in Pant-y-rhais, erected about the year 1833, is now generally known. In those days of fervid emulation among the neighbouring farmers, no foreman in charge of a good team was considered to be properly and fully equipped without the appendage of a bovine horn of the largest and longest dimension, which he carried with him to announce his approach by its sound, and to warn the teams in front to allow him to pass by getting out of his way. An instance is traditionally related of a resolute refusal to comply with the accustomed notice to draw aside, when recourse was had to an expedient beyond mere moral suasion. One of the carts belonging to the sturdy and independent freeholder of Cwmcoednarth in which were powerful oxen, was driven by an indomitable youth, who, paying no regard to the sounding of the horn, continued inflexible in his attitude, when at length physical force was employed to enforce compliance. In the conflict which ensued, the laden cart was upheaved and tumbled over Cerwyn Cranog wall, but the famous Welsh oxen seeing the danger to which they were exposed, refused to accompany it over the edge of the precipice. But the cart suspended over the brink, they held immovably by the pole, to the point of which they were yoked, until a saw was obtained to cut through it and effect the separation. Though the load of lime was lost, the high-spirited owner expressed no regret at it, but signified his satisfaction rather that he was the possessor of such circumstances as well as robust and unyielding animals.

In connection with Cwmcoednarth and its above-named owner, there is in circulation a legend of some significance, which it will not be out of place here to relate. It is to the following effect. As the redoubtable yeoman was once returning home from Cardigan on horseback, after nightfall, it is reported that when he had entered into Penlôn Aberthen, a distance of between two and three miles from Cwmcoednarth, a ball of light appeared on the road in advance of him. When he had overtaken the apparition, and was in the act of passing by it, in an instant it sprang on the horse's back behind him, and by its ponderous weight caused the overladen steed to groan piteously all the way home. The valiant proprietor of Cwmcoednarth had fortunately by him a strong rope, which he flung around the intrusive and unceremonious companion, by means of which it was fastened and made secure. The apparition not anticipating that kind of treatment as well as not relishing its altered and humiliating position, humbly implored its successful captor to be released, a request which the fearless Welsh farmer resolutely declined to grant. Finding that it had

no chance of success by humble imploration, it at length changed its tactics and attempted to produce some impression upon its unrelenting seizer by a different manoeuvre. It employed the language of promised beneficence on the one hand, and of menacing evil on the other, in each of which it at the same time arrogated to itself the power to exert supernatural influence. It said, "gollwng fi yn rhydd, a mi a'th wnafl yn well well hyd y sil cyn ach; neu os nas gollyngi fi yn rhydd, mi a'th wnafl yn waeth waeth hyd y sil cyn ach." But the courageous yeoman was not to be influenced by either fair promise or evil menace. Every effort to be released proved of no avail until Cwmcoednarth was reached, where light was at once procured. Then ensued a fearful struggle resulting in a loud sound as of a heavy fall to the ground when and where the apparition disappeared and was seen no more. On the spot was afterwards observed something which resembled the incrustation of a large ring of blood, on which an elder sprig soon sprang up and grew luxuriantly into a tree of considerable size for the species.

Thus ends the narration of the romantic legend of Cwmcoednarth, which may have originated in a desire allegorically to convey and impress an important truth not otherwise to be enforced possibly with equal effect. Should any adept in the exposition of allegories feel inclined to undertake the unravelling of the phenomena of the illusion with its intended meaning, he may probably find some indication of its significance by observing the direful result which eventually ensued. To Cwmcoednarth the consequences of non-compliance with the request of the strange apparition proved most disastrous. A reaction of a blasting and ruinous character in the circumstances of the place set in, the upshot of which was, that the entire property in the fourth generation was brought under the hammer and changed hands. That occurred in 1843.

LLALLAWG.

JUNE 26, 1878.

NOTES.

BYTHER.—In the county of Carmarthen, about five and a half miles south-west from Llanbedr-Pont-Stephen, on the banks of the river Teifi, is a parish bearing in its name as an affix the uncommon term, byther. In various documents, maps, and books of diverse dates from 1518 down to 1836, the name is spelled in thirteen different ways—

Lloughbether,	Llanybeddeir,
Llanbither,	Llanybudder,
Llannebetheyr,	Llanybyddair,
Llanumbether,	Llanybyder,
Llanimbether,	Llanybeder,
Llanybydder,	Llanumbeder.
Llanybyddar,	

The prevalence of so much variety in the mode of spelling the name seems to imply that the signification of it was unknown. How *llough*, *logh* alias *loch*, being the Gaelic term for a lake, came to be its prefix in the Liber Regis is unaccountable, unless there was a *llyn* in the locality from which its original name was derived, which was subsequently when the church was founded, converted into *llan*. When that occurred is uncertain. The dedication of the church to St. Peter took place probably after, A.D. 1291, which is about the date of Pope Nicholas's Taxatio as the name is not mentioned in it. In the name of a township in the parish of Bugeldy, Radnorshire, bydder occurs as an affix, as Crug-y-bydder, but I do not recollect to have met with it elsewhere. A list of all the instances in which byther and bydder enter into the composition of

local names would very materially aid in arriving at a satisfactory conclusion whether they be corrupted forms of Peter, abbreviations of the Roman name Buthereus, Flemish names, or otherwise derivations of the Welsh byddar, signifying deaf. In the programme of the excursions intended to be made by the members of the Cambrian Archaeological Association at their annual meeting in August next, the church of Llanybyther is set down to be visited on Wednesday, the 21st of that month. And it is desirable that the attention of Welsh etymologists should be directed to a solution of the origin and meaning of the name for the occasion.

LLALLAWG.

QUERIES.

THE REV. RICHARD EDWARDS.—In the British Museum MS. [Pennant's Pedigrees, Add. MSS. 9,864, fol. 10] mention is made of Richard Edwards, vicar of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, and afterwards vicar of Oswestry, as being connected with the Thelwalls of Batharn. Is anything known of his life, and what was the connection?

H. W. L.

REPLIES.

THE MERIONETHSHIRE HILLS (May 29, 1878).—Fuller did not always express his obligation to other authors for either his facts or the language in which he conveyed them. His description of the "Principality of Wales," at the end of his *Worthies*, is a curious jumble of the information contained in previous authors. Antonine's, Giraldus's, and Leland's *Itineraries*, Sir J. Price's "Description of Wales" prefixed to Lhwyl's (Powell's) *History* of 1584, Camden, and the two descriptive poems of Churchyard and Drayton, had all been drawn upon by the versatile old author of the *Worthies* and *Holy War*, and most of their errors had been by him reproduced. For it is quite certain, judging by internal evidence, that he had never seen what he described in North Wales; and the quotation which your able correspondent gives is a bit taken by old Fuller, without acknowledgment, from the *Itinerary* of Giraldus Cambrensis, as will be seen by the following extract from the original edition (Lond: 1585) p. 188, a copy of which I have:—"Habet enim montes altissimos, arcus tamen & in arcis modum acutissimos, nec raros quidem, sed ereberrimos & tanta inæqualitate consertos, vt in summis eorum ticipibus pastores confabulantes ad inuicem vel conuiuiantes, si concurrere fortè statuerint, à mane in vesperam vix conuenient;" which is translated by Sir R. Colt Hoare in his edn. of 1806 as: "The ridges of its mountains are very high and narrow, terminating in sharp peaks, and so irregularly jumbled together, that if the shepherds, conversing or disputing with each other from their summits, should agree to meet, they could scarcely effect their purpose in the course of the whole day." As a matter of fact there are no mountains in Merionethshire answering the exaggerated description of Giraldus and Fuller. The former author by his own account only saw the hills from the Sea-board—for he passed through the "Province" of Meirionydd along the Coast to Caernarvonshire, resting only for a night at Towyn Merioneth and Llanfair-juxta-Harlech. I believe Fuller never saw the hills at all. Subsequent writers went on repeating the mistakes of these old writers. I have between thirty and forty vols. of "Tours in Wales," mostly published at the close of the last and the beginning of the present century—nearly all of which repeat in turn the errors of the other. We have yet one worthy labour for a literary and travelled Welshman to perform, and that is a corrected and enlarged edition of the best topographical work we have ever had upon North Wales, viz., Pennant's *Tours*.

E. B.

Portmadoc.

I take the following from the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*, edition published in 1874.

Giraldus gives us some exceedingly novel information concerning the Merionethshire mountains; which, if true, can only lead to the belief that they must have grown since his time. He says:—"The hills are extraordinarily high, and yet very narrow, and terminating in sharp peaks; nor are they thin scatter'd, but placed very close, and so even in height that the shepherds frequently converse from the tops of them; who yet, in case they should wrangle and appoint a meeting, can scarce come together from morning till night." This was, doubtless, fortunate, for surely the hottest of Welsh blood would cool after the most violent quarrel on the rival peaks, if it took twelve hours to reach the mutual valley. Camden seems to accept Giraldus as a gossiper, but Gibson, following Camden, will have none of it, and says: "But for mountains so high, and their tops notwithstanding so near, that men may converse from them, and yet scarce be able to meet in a whole day; I presume there are none such in nature, and am certain there are not any in Wales, but men conversing from their tops may meet in half an hour."

Mr. HUGHES will see by this that Fuller used the novel information of the earliest of all Welsh Tourists—Giraldus—as the text for his moralizing. NEMO.

ON THE LOCALITY OF MACKERFIELD.

(June 5, 1878.)

The two sons of St. Edwin, Offrid and Eadfrid, having fallen together with their father in the disastrous battle of Hethfelth, the kingdom of Northumbria was left destitute of a direct heir to the throne. On the death of Ethelfrith, his three sons, Eanfrid, Oswald, and Oswy, had taken refuge in Scotland, where they were baptized, and brought up in the Christian faith. The three now returned. We learn from Bede that Cadwallawn made a most pitiless slaughter of the inhabitants of Northumbria, and devastated the country for a whole year. Osric, who was the son of Elfric, the brother of Ella, and first cousin of St. Edwin, assumed the sovereignty of Deira, but in the very next summer was slain by Cadwallawn in battle. Eanfrid, the exiled son of Ethelfrith, became king of Bernicia, but having sought a conference with the victor, attended by only twelve soldiers, to sue for peace, was, together with his escort, murdered by him in cold blood. The two princes had reverted to Paganism, and their untimely end was regarded by their subjects in the light of a divine retribution for their sin of apostasy from the Christian faith. The year of their reign was, by common consent of the Chroniclers, blotted from the page of history, and added by them as a ninth year to the eight years of St. Oswald, who succeeded them in the united sovereignty of both kingdoms. Before he could reign undisturbed, however, it was necessary that he should rid the land of the invader. He collected what forces he could raise, the number of which proved wholly insufficient to enable him to cope, humanly speaking, with the joint armies of his foes, Cadwallawn, king of Gwynedd, and Penda, king of Mercia, his pagan ally. They met at a place called Denesburn, near the Roman Wall from Tyne to Solway. At the time of his brothers' apostasy, St. Oswald had stood firm to his Christian calling, and now, when "vain was the help of man," he had recourse to the arm of God. He caused a rude cross of wood to be raised on the field, and with his own hands upheld it while being fixed firmly in the ground. No sooner did it stand erect than the king cried out to the army with a loud voice, "Let us all bend our knees, and pray unto the Lord Omnipotent, living and true, to defend us by His pitifulness from our proud and fierce enemy; for He Himself knows that our war is a just war for the safety of our nation." At break of day the battle began, when Oswald obtained a complete victory, and Cadwallawn was left dead upon the field.

Bede tells us only that the impious commander of the Britons (*infandus Britonum dux*) was slain in this battle; but Mr. Skene, in his introductory chapters to the *Four Ancient Books of Wales* (a) is inclined to think that this commander was not Cadwallawn, because Bede does not mention his name, because Nennius says the general slain in this battle, which he calls "Bellum Catscaul" (*i.e.*) *Cad is gual*, "battle at the wall," was "Cadgublaun, rex Gwendotereionis," while he calls Cadwallawn *Cadguollawn*; and because Tighernac, the Irish chronicler, "in 632 records a battle by *Cathlon* in quo Oswalt mac Etelfraith victor erat, et Cathlon Rex Britonum cecidit;" while he had named Cadwallawn *Chon* in the previous year. Mr Skene supposes, therefore, that the king slain may have been Cadvan, his father, with whom he may have reigned for a time conjointly, and that the Welsh Bruts may be "not unworthy of credit in representing the reign of Cadwallawn, the son, as lasting many years longer." "It is, therefore, not unlikely," he adds, "that Cadwallawn assisted Penda in the war when Oswald was slain, and in the war between Oswy and Penda, in 655, when Penda was eventually slain."

Now, whether Cadwallawn did or did not lose his life in this battle, it is manifest that a victory so decisive as to place St. Oswald at once in possession of the entire kingdom of Northumbria, which had been wrested from his predecessors, must have resulted also in placing both his adversaries, the King of Mercia as well as of North Wales, completely *hors de combat*. Left alone Penda would naturally have sought to effect his retreat into his own kingdom of Mercia, and if pursued, would have, in all probability, effected his escape over the borders into North Wales, where his ally Cadwallawn, if he were living, or his late subjects, if he were dead, would be able and ready to shelter him. A comparison of the statements of the historians, if it does not actually prove, yet shows very strong ground for the belief that this was the actual course of subsequent events. "Creoda, the first King of Mercia" (A.D. 585—593) says Palgrave (b) "must have been a vassal under the supremacy of Northumbria. Penda, a fierce and valiant warrior, cast off this allegiance. (c.) Oswald would not, then, have failed to take advantage of so favourable an opportunity to recover so fair a portion of the territory of his predecessors; Mercia consequently, during the interval between the battles of Hethfelth and Maserfelth, would have again become re-united to Northumbria, and Maserfelth itself, instead of, as imagined by Mr. Littler, being "a remote corner of Penda's," would be a part of S. Oswald's dominions at the time of the latter engagement. What, then, becomes of his argument? To use his own expression, it has vanished into *nubes et aer*; or rather, it has gone over to the opposite side, and added impregnable strength to the argument in favour of Oswestry. For the thing which he might have been expected to do under the circumstances is precisely that which we learn from Capgrave that he did do. "King Oswald," he says, "having first of all subdued the kingdom of the Mercians and driven Penda into Wales," &c. And Bede (III. 6) "Rex Osuald—denique omnes nationes et provincias Britannia, quæ in quatuor linguas, id est, Britonum, Pictorum, Scottorum, et Anglorum divisæ sunt, in ditione accepit." That is:—King Oswald received under his dominion *all* the nations and provinces of Britain, which are divided into four languages, that is, of the Britons,

Picts, Scots, and Angles. "All." Therefore Mercia—for Mercia was one of the parts of Britain in possession of the Angles. Bede likewise disposes of the argument, scarcely, perhaps, worth the space required for stating it, from the supposed non-identity of Bardney, where the body of S. Oswald was buried, to the 'Bearthaneg' of the Saxon Chronicle, and the unlikelihood that they should be carried there. In the 11th chapter of his 3rd Book, he gives a full relation of the translation of his relics to Bardney Monastery by Osthryda, the daughter of his brother Oswy, by whom Penda had then been slain in battle, and also the reason, viz.:—Because that Queen, together with Ædired her husband, held that monastery in great esteem, veneration, and affection, and therefore desired to lay in it the honoured bones of her uncle. "Quod eadem regina cum viro suo Ædiredo multum diligebat, venerabatur, excolebat, in quo desiderabat honoranda patri sui ossa recondere." (*Ecc. Hist. iii. 2.*)

We now come to the last argument of Mr. Littler, which deserves attention rather from the importance which he appears to attach to it than from any intrinsic weight in itself. He gives a long quotation from Bede relating to the miracles which he states to have been wrought on the spot where St. Oswald fell, and then proceeds to argue that because that author makes no mention of water, therefore no natural spring could have existed on the spot at the time. And then he argues that, because there is now no spring, but only a hole in the earth, into which a little water oozes from the adjoining ground on the spot known at Winwick "beyond the memory of man as S. Oswald's Well," therefore it corresponds sufficiently to the description of Bede, who terms it "fossa," to prove that it was the spot where St. Oswald actually fell. Here, however, Mr. Littler is sufficiently refuted from his own evidence. The spot, he tells us himself, has been known by the name of St. Oswald's Well *beyond the memory of man*. He informs us, too, that "the well in question has been used by the Roman Catholics up to about twenty-five years past as sacred. The water was sent for from it to be used as the holy water of the Roman Catholic Chapels. An old man of the name of Henry Roughly, who died about 1830, at the age of 75, and who had lived near it the greater part of his life, informed us that an old Catholic lady was accustomed to give him three shillings in his youth to keep it clear of weeds." He adds that a Catholic gentleman named Ashton never passed it "without going into the field, and impressing on his forehead the form of a cross from its waters." How does all this agree with his previous assertion that there was here nothing more than a dry hole, into which a little water oozed from the adjoining ground? But the fact of the existence of a well is confirmed by the Rev. Alban Butler, living about 1700, who says distinctly in his life of S. Oswald, "At Winwick in Lancashire, is a well still called St. Oswald's." (*Lives of the Saints*, Aug. 5th.) Where is the probability that people would for miles around have sought a mere hole in the ground for the chance of the overflow into it of a little water, or that it would have needed clearing from weeds, unless it had been a well, or that such a hole would have continued to exist in the same untended condition from the date of the battle to our own day (A.D. 643—1874), more than 1200 years?

Nor does the existence of a holy well necessarily presuppose the site of a battle, or the death by any means on the spot of the person whose name it may bear, however venerated by posterity. Obviously this particular well may have become associated with the memory of St. Oswald from other causes, more especially in a place where he had been accustomed to reside. The tradition

(a) p.p. 71 and 72.

(b) Hist. of Anglo-Saxons, p. 38, Ed. 1876.

(c) Nennius says, "Penda . . . primus separavit regnum Merciorum a regno Nordorum." In Gale's Ed., App. p. 117.

of Oswestry is wholly independent of the well (a), named from St. Oswald, which existed there till desecrated by persons who cared nought for the Saint, or his memory, and would have execrated as superstitious the belief that his prayers had efficacy with the Almighty for the relief of sickness, or other woes of humanity. Accordingly Mr. Littler sneers at the statement in the Saxon Chronicle that the hand (not *hands* as written by him) was preserved incorrupt at Bamboorough till the date of the Saxon Chronicle. But William of Malmesbury, 400 years later, is equally explicit as to its preservation in his day. "Nam, quod auditor mirari debet, et inficari nemo audeat, dextra illa regalis, tantarum eleemosynarum largitrix, hodie cum brachio, cute, et nervis incorrupta viget." For,—a thing which the hearer ought to admire, and no one may venture to deny, that royal right hand, the lavisher of so many almsgivings is, at this day, together with the arm, skin, and sinews, sound and incorrupt (b.) Similar testimony is borne by Hoveden in the 12th, Matthew of Westminster in the 13th, and Capgrave in the 14th centuries, and after them by Polydore Vergil and Harpsfield. Harpsfield says that S. Oswald was slain "inter medias orationes," in the midst of his prayers, as if in reference to some account other than has come down to us through Bede and the Saxon Chronicle. This seems to throw some light on the expression 'per diabolicam artem,' of Nennius, and to intimate that he was not killed fighting in the actual battle, but at some spot where he was surprised, and taken unawares at a disadvantage. Thus may be reconciled the possibility of the King's death having been compassed at Oswestry, notwithstanding that the principal battle-scene may have taken place at Coedway, the Codoy of Nennius, at a few miles distance near the Severn. "Et quemadmodum per totam prius vitam in orationibus assiduus fuit (adeo ut à nocturnis laudibus ad lucem usque orationem continuare soleret), ita et inter medias orationes, quibus, propter cetera, exercitus sui animos regnumque Deo commendavit, cœsus est sexto Augusti." And as he was constant in prayer during the whole of his previous life (so that he was wont to continue his prayer from the praises of the night even unto dawn), so was he slain also in the midst of the prayers wherein, besides other things, he commended to God the dispositions of his army, and his kingdom, on the sixth of August. Of the hand he says:—"There live to this day witnesses most worthy, and above all exception, who have related to me that they have seen it themselves," and adds, "To conclude, on that spot where he was slain for Christ in Wales, not far from Salop has been built a church to his memory called Whitchurch. Adjacent to the church is a well, which, from its name, is deemed to be St. Oswald's. Lastly, the town in the same place is in the British tongue called at this day Oswestry, that is, Oswald's town." The head was sent by Oswy to Lindisfarne, where it was

put by the monks, when they fled from the Danes, into the coffin of St. Cuthbert, which, when opened a few years since in Durham Cathedral, was found to contain two heads, one of them probably St. Oswald's. His other relics were translated to Flanders, probably to preserve them from the hands of English fanatics, where they were destroyed in the French invasion under King Henry III. in 1558 (c.)

A chain is never stronger than its weakest link. Mr. Baines who, in his *History of Lancashire*, has adopted the account of Mr. Littler, has been certainly hasty in concluding from it that "the preponderance of evidence is for Winwick." Each link of Mr. Littler's chain of evidence has now been separately and carefully examined, and not a single one has been found to rest upon any substantial basis. To the superficial reader the argument may carry an appearance of plausibility as a whole, but will not bear the test of analysis, or comparison of dates and events. Moreover, by those who desire to form a trustworthy judgment in this matter it should be borne in mind that St. Oswald is associated by the tradition of the place with Winwick as his residence merely, and not in any way with his death, which, in the case of that town, is purely and simply a matter of antiquarian inference. Oswestry, on the contrary, possesses, and has always possessed, in addition to the significance of its name, a clear and distinct native tradition connecting it with the death, and not with the life of St. Oswald. The preponderance of evidence is surely, then, in favour of Oswestry. Or, to speak more precisely, the use of the word 'preponderance' is here altogether out of place. The supposed evidence for Winwick, having been proved to be destitute of any real foundation in every particular, has vanished into space, and

Like the baseless fabric of a vision,
Leaves not a wrack behind.

H. W. L.

CURRENT NOTES.

A curious discovery was made in Corwen Church Tower a few days ago. Mr. William Humphreys, parish clerk, while going up the tower, found a very old sword with the letters "J.P." engraved upon it.

Aber Church (says the *Builders' News*) is built on the site of one of the earliest Christian churches in Britain. The old church of Aber is supposed to have been erected in the year 674, by St. Bodvan, son of Helig, of Dothelig, near Penrhyn Castle. Respecting St. Bodvan, it may be stated that he has one of twelve sons, who were all of devout mind, and erected a large number of churches throughout the Principality. The last of the Welsh princes, Llewelyn, lived at Aber, and the old church was, in the time of Cromwell, occupied by soldiers of the Commonwealth, who were on their way to Ireland. The erection of a new church was not undertaken a day too soon, for it presented a most uninviting aspect. Still, though dilapidated, uncomfortable, and unsightly, it was a relic of the past ages, and the parishioners were reluctant to pull it down. There was, however, really no alternative. The plans for the new church were prepared by Messrs. Pugin, Ashlin, and Pugin, and met with unanimous approval, and they have been well carried out by Mr. E. Williams, of Bangor. The total cost has been about £4,000. The new structure is in the early decorated style, and consists of tower, nave, chancel, vestry, and organ-chamber. In the tower are placed the old bells.

(c) *Life of S. Oswald* by Drogo Monachus, Cenobii Wincibergensis in Flandriâ, quoted by the New Bollandists.

(a) We learn from Leland that the tradition respecting the well was "aquilam brachium Oswaldi a stipite prœripuisse, sed excidisse ei quo loco nunc fons est." An eagle carried off an arm of Oswald from a stake, and it fell on the spot where the spring now is.

(b) Malmesbury lib. I. de Re. c. 3, quoted by Alford, who makes the following observation on Camden's disingenuousness in ascribing the incorruptness of the hand to the artifice of the monks:—"Ita ille (Camdenus), Dei mirabilia narrans et eludens: quasi desiderit Sanctos honorare, quia desiderit Sectarii credere illos colendos esse."—So says Camden, when narrating and vading the wonderful works of God: as though He had ceased to honour the Saints, because the Sectaries have ceased to believe that they ought to be worshipped.

The west window has been fitted with stained glass, the gift of Lord Penrhyn, the subject being the Baptism of Our Lord by St. John. The tower is 60ft. high. The edifice is built entirely of stone. The roofs are covered with the best blue slate from the Penrhyn quarries.

The *British Architect* says :—" Mr. John Henry Parker, of Oxford, makes a really good suggestion if someone public-spirited enough could only be found to take it up. He suggests that the fine old walls of the town of Conway could be restored at a comparatively slight expense, and that they would then form, as do those of Chester, a fine walk around the old town, which is, he says, with its castle, the best example of a fortified town remaining in the British Isles. Surely there are generous and wealthy Welshmen who will be ready to help to do this now it is brought before their notice. What say John Roberts, of Liverpool, and David Davies, of Llandinam ! Mr. Parker also refers to the Castle at Carnarvon, the birth-place of the first Prince of Wales. This castle is in a better state of preservation than that of Conway, and could be adapted for an occasional royal residence. Some time there may arise a Prince of Wales who may like to sojourn awhile in the ancestral home and among the people whose name he bears, and then the castle may be restored. It will be a pity, however, if in the meantime it is allowed to lapse further into decay." We should have thought Mr. Parker would know that, in all probability, Carnarvon Castle was *not* the birth-place of the first Prince of Wales.

Y CYMMRODOR.—The first part of the second volume of the Transactions of the Cymmrodorion Society is now in the hands of subscribers, and a very interesting part they will find it. "Pencerdd Gwalia" discourses on the National Music of Wales, and the Rev. Elias Owen publishes a paper on the Private Devotions of the Welsh in Days gone by. There is also a chapter on the Eisteddfod of the Future, and continuations of the Letters of Lewis Morris. In a review of the "Memorials of Charlotte Williams-Wynn," by the Editor, Mr. Robert Jones pays a deserved tribute of respect to the memory of her father, the Right Hon. Charles Watkin Williams-Wynn, and narrates an incident in his life, where he quietly and without any ostentation, placed a monument at Oxford over the grave of his old friend and schoolfellow, Professor Elmsley, a ripe scholar, who died in early manhood. Attached to the part—for separate binding—is a further instalment of the Poems of Iolo Goch. We should add, too, that the members of the Cymmrodorion have lately received the fourth part of the choice reprint of Salesbury's Dictionary, so they cannot complain that they have not "value received" for their subscriptions !

WELSH TRIADS.—Three things that never become rusty: the money of the benevolent, the shoes of the butcher's horse, and a woman's tongue. Three things not easily done: to allay thirst with fire, to dry wet with water, to please all in everything that is done. Three things that are as good as the best: brown bread in famine, well water in thirst, and a gray coat in cold. Three things as good as their better: dirty water to extinguish the fire, an ugly wife to a blind man, and a wooden sword to a coward. Three warnings from the grave: thou knowest what I was, thou seest what I am, remember what thou art to be. Three things of short continuance: a lady's love, a chip fire, and a brook's flood. Three things that ought never to be from home: the cat, the chimney, and the housewife. Three essentials to a false story-teller: a good memory, a bold face, and fools for an audience. Three things seen in the peacock: the garb of an angel, the walk of a thief, and the voice of a devil. Three miseries of a man's house: a smoky chimney, a dripping roof, and a scolding wife.

HISTORY OF THE GWYDIR FAMILY.

The following Welsh poems—hitherto unpublished—will appear in the notes to the new edition of the *History of the Gwydir Family* Mr. ASKEW ROBERTS is now preparing for the Press:—

KOWYDD MREDYDD AP IFAN

AMRHEDYDD O YSTYMKEGID.

Pa wrol ion pur i wled
prav blaenio pobl wynedd
Mredydd o fionydd faenawr
mab Ifan ail gogfran gawr
sy lowydd teg, sylwedd twr
syth gwynn ymlaen saith gannwr
a flennaeth hoff i anian
fry a gae lwk efrog lan
ag er yn fab gwiwrn fodd
hap ras orfod prysurfodd
i bob gwaith i bob gwthiaw
i bob aer drom bybyr draw
diwarth rym, i doe wrth raid
derwen y penaduriaid
ag nid oes walch glanfalch gledd
nenn fynys yn un fonedd
wyr fredydd ifrau ydiw
ap howel gwyth hepil gwiw
gwaed dafydd ap gruffudd gryf
gwyth gynnes ag iach gennyf
Ymwel ai lys aml i wled
Mark hynod ymrig gwynedd
ystum wenn blas da yma i waith
Kegid nid hendy koegwaith
Neuadd fawr newydd furwen
uwch ael ffordd uchel i ffen
lle kair gida am llew kowrain
llosog hir bob lles kain
arian a gwin urien ged
ag aur ai law'n egored
o ddwys bur dda syberwyd
a rhoi'n ddi ball, rhinwedd byd
Ifor yw fo fawr i fudd
a fraisg fyinn frigs ifionydd
llew ag awch ffwg lliwgoch fflon
llawen gorf, llyn ag arfonn
da reolwr dewr eilwaith
holl benllyn hyd ferwyn faith
ag yno rhwydd i gwna rhawg
evro a dail riwedawg
efo i wraig wenn fry a gaid
o bur iawn ryw barwniaid
Marged lawhyged yw hon
Mawr i chynrych merch einion
wyr ithel lan, araith lwyys
yw bwrdd gwin, beirdd a gynwys
ir lliosog roi lusen
eurgain hil wrgenau hen
da loer yw honn, deuliw 'r haf
dirion siriol, dwn saraf
a da wyneb di anoeth
i fionydd, fu'r ddydd i doeth
at fredydd arf derydd dân
dur bafais dewr ab ifan

gwr y sydd mewn gras heddyw
glew union farn, glana'n fyw
eb yr un pur, barwn parch
ail kyfflyba kaiff loewbarch
draw hyd yn hynn, drud ion hael
dawn ofeg duw'n i afael
kafas air byd, bryd, breuder
a chlod gann weiniaid a chler
ag efo, pan ddel gofyn
aur naf teg, gwr, nowfed dyn
i gadw rhwysg y gwaed yrhawg
o brint ais bronn y tywyssawg
Mal Owain wych ymlaen nod
gwynedd hen gynnydd hynod
diwid fryd doed i fredudd
dalaith aur hen, dilyth rhudd
a gardys amlwg eurdeg
Rolant ail ar i lin teg
yrlynedd mowredd mirain
o bru'n y cwrn barwn kain
Harri goel ierll, hir i gledd
bumed ag ni bu omedd
Aroes iraidd res arian
ar i warr glew, eryr glân
rhoed eto er llwyddo lles
aur fynwer ar i fonwes
a graddied hwnn gwreiddiad hedd
baun y gwin yn benn gwynedd.

I. LLOWDDEN ai kant.

Brogyntyn MS. No. 13. Cowydd 11.

Ievan Llawdden was an eminent poet of the vale of Llychwr in Caermarthenshire, who flourished from about A.D. 1430 to 1470. He spent a great part of his life as minister of the church of Machynlleth, but in his old age he retired to the place of his nativity, where he died.—*Cambrian Biography*, page 203.

KOWYDD MOLIAN T I SION AMRHEDYDD O FIONYDD.

O dair i rifo dewrion
Pumil o swm pwy mal sion
Syth gorff a fwriai seith gawr
Sion sy ar fodd sain siorfawr
Mae erioed fab Mredydd
y gair i hwn a gwayw rhydd
Aeth dra dig wrth dorri dydd
yw o fynwes y fionydd
ef a lifodd fal ifan
lafn dur fel afon ne dân
ffrolo wrth gyffroi alon
ffrwyth tywysowglwyth yw sion
O uchel waed o iach lan
Owain gwynedd neu gynan
fo ar gamp o fwrw gwyr
eb law dyn oblaidd ynyr
onnen hir wyr einion hael
a saethodd megis ithael
gwnai dannon bren gwydn yn frau
gwr a gwyneb gwrgenau

wyr farchudd arfau erchyll
I ddifa kaith fal oddf kyll
Mawr yw ar draed mor wyr dro
mwyar wasgwyn ym rosgo
deth fu saith o'r doethion
enwaf o saith un yw sion
Tai fal ysbytai Ifan
teg ywr llys to gwydr y llan
gwledd hu gadarn ef barnwn
mwy yw kost y makwy hwn
gweled gan deg i goler
gild Sion fal goleud ser
lfor oedd ym i fardd wyf
yn wedig i nai ydwyf
mae arnaf chwant y mor nest
a gwyr Ieirll a gwayw orest
nid Kystal rhag Kofalon
i phwys o aur a ffais Sion
bron angel medd ai gweles
brigawn dur mal wybr gan des
ym ni chaid i ymwan chwyrn
gloch hwy o gylche heurn
tonau dur towyniad ia
toniau fal pen ty anna
trwst a wnan trowstau unud
teils dur oll fal tân y serud
Erchi yrwy fi oryw fan
wisg aur ffyrf ysgraff arian
ysgyrion neu hinon haf
y sydd fal o sau addaf
o wyr ond teg oryn twr
aroes hudol ar sawdiwr
mwy yw no gwn a maen gau
ag a mil o gymalau
llafnau krymanau llyfnion
llwyth o ia ar frig llethr y fron
pils dur palis a drig
pysg i'r pais gei o warwig
a thailiwr a wnaeth hoelion
aur ym hwys i rwymo hon
Kyfliw maes ydiw'r kofi mau
Kan kwyllion y kyn kwyllau
Kwyr oridens krair ydynt
Kawod o gnav coed ganwynt
Kad gamlan friwdan frwyd
Kenllysg ywch y park kwnllwyd
Kassel gadfan am danaf
i chau a gwagav a gaf
torchau galawnt a erchais
twr Sion i anturiaw sais
aed yngofal om kalon
os a fy mendith i Sion.

RHOBIN DDU ai kant.

Brogyntyn MS. 13. Cowydd 19.

Robin (Ddu o Von,) an eminent poet who flourished from 1430 to 1470. Several of his poems are preserved in Manuscript and among them is one written in 1450, from which we learn that he was returning from a pilgrimage to Rome, to Pope Nicholas V., in a ship with a cargo of wine, bound to Anglesey, his native country. Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*, p. 458.

JULY 3, 1878.

PUNISHMENT BY BURNING (June 19, 1878).—In *Notes and Queries* of June 1, a writer says:—"Péit-Treason consisted in the breach of civil or ecclesiastical connexion coupled with murder, as where a servant killed his master, a wife her husband, or an ecclesiastical person (either secular or regular) his superior, to whom he owed faith and obedience. The punishment in a man was, to be drawn and hanged, and in a woman to be drawn and burned."

NOTES.

CASTLEREAGH.—The late election in the county of Down has brought this word (pronounced, I believe, *Castle reh*) before your readers, and is sufficient apology for the following extract:—"Castlereagh is a small town in Roscommon, which gives the name to a barony. The castle, of which there are now no remains, stood on the west side of the town, and it is called by the Four Masters *Caisten riabach*, grey castle. There is a barony in Down of the same name, which was so-called from an old castle, a residence of a branch of the O'Neils, which stood on a height in the townland of Castlereagh, near Belfast; and some half-dozen townlands in different counties are called by this name, so descriptive of the venerable appearance of an ancient castle." *Joyce's Irish Names of Places*, p. 295.

IDLOES.

QUERIES.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE ANTIQUITIES.—Are there any remains of Cromlechau or early inscribed stones within the limits of the county?

GOGLEDD.

SLAIN AT OSWESTRY, 1644.—Of what family was Thomas Williams, a Lieutenant of Pioneers in the Parliamentary Army, who was slain at Oswestry on the 15th of June, 1644? I found him mentioned, but without further comment, in *Peacock's Army Lists of the Round-heads and Cavaliers*, 4to, 1863.

T. HUGHES.

Chester.

REPLIES.

CWM CERWIN OR CERWYN (June 12, 1878).—There is a mountain in Pembrokeshire called *Moel Cwm Cerwyn*, which derives its name from *Cwm Cerwyn*, a crater-like hollow on the summit of it. This mountain, which belongs to the Pryselli range, is said to be 1,700 feet above the level of the sea. I am not aware that any tradition is associated with this Cwm Cerwyn; but the name is perhaps worth recording in connection with the Carnarvonshire Cwm Cerwyn mentioned by "G.G."

GWYDDAN.

SHELLEY AT TREMADOC.

(Mar. 27, 1878.)

"W. R. H." asks, at this date, why in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*, I discredit Shelley's story of being shot at when living at Tremadoc. I have been otherwise occupied or would have looked up my authorities earlier. Here they are:—Mr. Thomas Love Peacock, a friend of Shelley's, writing in *Fraser's Magazine* in June 1858, on the subject says, "I was in North Wales in the summer of 1813, and heard the matter much talked of. Persons who had examined the premises on the following morning had found that the grass of the lawn appeared to have been much trampled and rolled on, but there were no footmarks on the wet ground, except between the beaten spot and the window; and the impression of the ball on the wainscot showed that the pistol had been fired towards the

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window and not from it. This appeared conclusive as to the whole series of operations having taken place from within." Mr. Thomas Jefferson Hogg, in his *Life of Shelley*, says, "Persons acquainted with the localities and with the circumstances, and who had carefully investigated the matter, were unanimous in the opinion that no such attack was ever made."

A.R.

Croeswylan, Oswestry.

I do not envy the mental condition of the man that can believe one syllable of the story said to have been told by Shelley and his wife about an attempt to assassinate him while he resided at Tan yr Allt, near Tremadoc. The whole affair strongly reminds one of a situation in a sensational novel; and I have no hesitation to say that it is a pure fabrication from beginning to end. The improbability of it is such that it is difficult to conceive how any unbiassed person can possibly read it without being convinced of the imaginary character of the whole transaction. This is neither the first nor last "tale of woe" concocted under the pressure of pecuniary difficulties; and we need not go further than the very letter which relates the story to ascertain what the state of the Tan yr Allt was at the time.

GWYDDAN.

Mar. 28.

The following is the passage in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales* referred to by "W. R. H." in his query of Mar. 27:—"In an article on Shelley in the *Cornhill Magazine* for March, 1875, the writer gives the poet, who resided in the district for some time, the credit of materially assisting in this undertaking. He says that the works being insufficient, the embankment gave way and the sea rushed in. Shelley bestirred himself and solicited subscriptions, heading the list with his own name for £500. We very much question whether the poet was worth that amount at the period, and had it been true, the presumption is that Mr. Smiles would have recorded the fact. Speaking of Shelley, in connection with this district, reminds us that tourists at times take considerable trouble to discover the house in which he lived at Tanyrallt, Tremadoc: they will always be unsuccessful, for it has long since been demolished. If we may believe the poet, the house was once the scene of a very extraordinary event; no less than that of an attempt on his life by a would-be ravisher of his sister as well as murderer; but, although pistols were fired—by the poet, there is no reason to believe that there was any other party to the affray; the murderer being, like Falstaff's men in buckram, the creation of a poet's brain."

G.G.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

SUMMER EXCURSION.

(From the *Oswestry Advertiser*.)

The members and their friends made an excursion on Monday, the 8th of July, to Shifnal, Tong, Donington, Whiteladies, and Boscobel. The weather was delightfully fine, and the attendance was, accordingly, large. Everything passed off well, and the affair may be pronounced a signal success.

Amongst those present were the Rev. W. A. Leighton, Rev. Butler Lloyd, Mr. George Stanton, Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. Callcott, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sandford, Mr. P. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Adnitt and Miss Jones, Mr. J. Pugh White, Mr. D. Davies, Mr. W. E. Harding, Mr. C. E. Peele, Mr. and Miss Adams, Mr. W. Hughes, and Mr. Caswell, of Shrewsbury, Mr. Askew Roberts, Mr. J. Sides Davies, and Mr. W. H. Spaul, of Oswestry, Mr. Hubert Smith and Mr. J. W.

McMichael, of Bridgnorth, Rev. O. M. Feilden, Frankton, Rev. J. Brooke and Rev. C. Brooke, Haughton Hall, Rev. H. G. De Bunsen, Donington, the Hon. and Rev. J. R. O. Bridgeman, Rev. T. M. and Mrs. Auden, Ford, Rev. Holland Sandford, Eaton, Mr. and Misses J. Ryder, Wellington, Mr. Martin, Hereford, Mr. W. E. Beckwith, Eaton Constantine, Mr. and Miss Rogerson, Admaston, Rev. H. Harvey, Mr. J. Randall, Mr. Douglas, &c., &c.

Special carriages were in waiting at Shifnal Station on the arrival of the ten train from Shrewsbury, and after some delay in catching extra horses—the ordinary supply of Shifnal proving inadequate to the demand—all the party got off; though some had an hour's start of others. All met at Tong, over the church of which place the Hon. and Rev. J. R. Orlando Bridgeman acted as conductor. To those who are acquainted with Shropshire churches we need scarcely say that there are few more interesting than that of Tong. This interest, within, lies chiefly in the remarkable monuments it possesses, notably one supposed to be to the memory of Sir Richard Vernon and his lady. This is formed of alabaster, and on the recumbent figures, we are told in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, that towards the close of last century a visitor observed a garland of flowers, reduced almost to dust, which the sexton said were renewed every Midsummer-day. Another monument, to the memory of Sir Thomas Stanley, has on it some lines commencing, "Not monumental stone preserves our fame," said to be by Shakespeare. This partially obscures the opening to the "Golden Chapel" Walter White describes as "an exquisite little appendage to the south aisle, which shews what adepts the masons of the sixteenth century were in the art of fan-vaulting." It also shews another thing; to wit, what adepts worshippers of the nineteenth century are in the art of pew-adapting!

A few of the visitors on Monday mounted the winding staircase to view the bell which occupies the place where the (recast) Great Bell of Tong hangs. And the curious directions to ringers, dated 1694, at the foot of the belfry steps, did not escape the notice of others. This (a copy of which has appeared in our *Bye-gones* column) is, next to that of Culmington, the oldest version we have in the county of the familiar lines, "If any one do wear his hat, when he is ringing here."

To some of the party another "Bell" offered attractions—especially those who had come from long distances, and had breakfasted early; and to satisfy these there was a little delay, but eventually all got off for Donington, the next halting place. Here Mr. De Bunsen met the party, which speedily gathered in his now unroofed church. Mr. Martin, in whose hands the work of restoration is placed, pointed out the chief features of interest, and kindly directed the workmen to take the boarding off a north window in the chancel, in order that the visitors might see the very beautiful coloured glass it contained. These fragments, we believe, were removed from the east window when it was filled with modern glass in 1847, and when perfect, were supposed to represent "Our Lord and His mother in the fleur-de-lys costume of A.D. 1280-1300." The church consists of chancel and nave only, but Mr. Martin was of opinion, by sundry indications on the wall, that at one time it had contained a south transept. The hammer-beam roof of the nave was the object of much attention, and, there being no by-law against punning in the rules of the Society, the name of Thomas Twigg, whose work it was, was subjected to a variety of twists! Mr. Twigg was evidently of opinion that posterity should know how far his restoration extended; for, not content with the general inscription of "Thomas Twigg, carpenter, 1635," on a tie-beam where his roof runs up to the tower, he has inscribed his initials on nearly every beam.

Donington having been well inspected Whiteladies, was the next object of interest. This place is so notorious that it is not necessary to say more than that "within the boundaries of Brewood Forest, at the beginning of the thirteenth century, existed two rival religious establishments—St. Leonard's, known as White Ladies, a convent of Cistercian nuns, which was in Shropshire; and St. Mary's, a convent of Black or Benedictine nuns, in Staffordshire." Whiteladies was a Norman structure, of which only an insignificant ruin remains. This is now chiefly of interest for the monuments it contains. Up to a very recent period it has been used as a cemetery by the Roman Catholics of Brewood—the Anglican Church spire of which village was in sight as the party drove along. One well-known and often quoted monument—or rather copy of a monument—that which records the death of Dame Joan, wife of William Penderel, was of course the centre of attraction; and Mr. De Bunsen (who has in the press a little book on Boscobel and Whiteladies) read some interesting particulars connected with the discovery and destruction of the original stone. The inscription on that stone has been faithfully copied on the one now existing, and is as follows:—"Here lyeth the Bodie of a Friende the King did call Dame Joane, but now she is Deceast and gone, Interred Anno Do 1669." Mr. De Bunsen also read some lines which form an epitaph on the monument of Richard Penderel, in a London churchyard, and which, curiously enough, appear in our *Bye-gones* this week.

Another monumental stone in this interesting burial-ground attracted the attention of some of the visitors. We allude to the one recording the death of Winifred White, whose death, early in this century, gave rise to so much controversy as to the virtues of her namesake's well at Holywell, where, some years before, she had been cured of what seemed to have been permanent and hopeless lameness. The full history of this interesting case appeared in our *Bye-gones* during the year 1875, and a short notice of it may be found in Chambers's *Book of Days*.

The last place visited was certainly not the least in point of interest. A description of Boscobel house would occupy more space than we have at our command, so near the time for going to press, much as we would like to give it, but we hope shortly to be able to return to the subject when we review the little book we have referred to, which will be published by Mr. Lowe, of Shifnal. The house, which originally lay secluded in the midst of a forest, was built by Mr. Gifford, of Chillington, as a shelter for the monks in the days of persecution. It was the lodging-place of Charles II., after the battle of Worcester, in the month of September, 1651, and not on the "29th of May—Oak-ball day," as many people suppose. Whether the merry monarch did have occasion to occupy the secret hole, under the cheeseroom (into which some of the visitors ventured on Monday) or not, is a matter of speculation; nor can we say whether he was so hard pressed as to have to escape by the secret door in the chimney. It is on record that he had time to enjoy himself in an arbour on a mound in the garden still existing; as it is also on record that he had to mount for safety a tree in the adjoining forest to get out of the way of Cromwell's soldiers. The interest of the spot centres, not on the house, but in the tree; and on Monday discussion, as usual, took place under the shade of the carefully guarded oak; but, we are bound to say, the opinion was nearly all one way, and that in opposition to the strongly expressed one of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, who, as we stated some months ago, is a strenuous advocate for the identity of the tree.

Mr. De Bunsen quoted the Rev. G. Plaxton, vicar of Donington, 1690-1703, who in his day spoke of "the poor remains of the Royal oak" being fenced in; Blount, Evelyn, and other authorities, who all spoke of the way in which the original oak had been robbed by relic-hunters, &c. On the other hand, Mr. De Bunsen read a letter from the Earl of Bradford in which his lordship discarded the usual stories of the owl flying out of the tree, and of a pillow being placed in its branches on which the King reclined; as also he did the equally, as his lordship thought, untrustworthy accounts of the destruction of the tree. In his lordship's family it had been handed down from father to son that the tree was the same as that in which the King, suddenly disturbed when out with the Penderels, hastily climbed; which was described as a growing oak. Nine years after, when the Restoration came, the tree was well-known, and when the coppice was thinned it was preserved. From father to son amongst the tenantry it had been known, and his lordship, who had known the tree for fifty years, was strongly of opinion that the tree itself bore evidence of being of the necessary age; and not a sapling from the original tree. The lower branches had doubtless been cut away, but not to the extent described.

We may here observe that the subject of the identity of the tree with the one which sheltered the King, has been recently revived by an article which appeared in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, Sept., 1876, where the writer holds that the opinion that the tree is a "seedling" is absurd! He goes in for the great age of the existing tree as enthusiastically as Lord Bradford does. He measured the tree to be eleven feet in circumference, but does not say at what height from the ground; and as "18 feet to the crown, and, perhaps, 20 more feet to the top." The Rev. J. Brooke, in 1857, measured it, at four feet from the ground, to be 11ft. 4in. in girth; and, with the assistance of an experienced timber merchant, who carefully compared it with other trees, they came to the conclusion it was not then more than 150 years old!

On Monday, Mr. Kemp, gardener, and Mr. Lowe, mounted the railings, and measured the tree, which, on the ground, was 19ft. 5½in., and at the height of four feet measured 12ft. 3in. round. Mr. Kemp also expressed an opinion that the tree had never been lopped, which, according to the account dictated by Charles himself to Pepys, had been the case with the oak in which he was hidden.

Amongst other authorities who had written about the tree, Mr. De Bunsen quoted Dr. Charlett of Oxford, who saw it in 1702, and who described it as "the trunk of the Royal Oak now enclosed within a round wall;" on which Mr. Dale (who was appointed curate of Donington in 1811), writing in 1845, remarked "*truncus*, a stump, stock, or body of a tree!" Dr. Stukeley (1713) was also quoted as describing the tree enclosed within a wall and "almost cut away by travellers," and as having by its side a "thriving young plant from one of its acorns." Mr. Leighton said he remembered when a boy his aunt, who lived at Brewood, showing him a bit of touchwood which had formed part of the original tree, and he had no doubt whatever the tree they were looking at was the sapling mentioned by Dr. Stukeley. Mr. De Bunsen said he had heard of old people who remembered two trees enclosed, and it had been suggested that the wrong one had been shown to relic-hunters so as to preserve the original tree. (Laughter.) After a few more opinions had been expressed, the party wended their way back to Shifnal, taking a glorious ride through Weston Park, by permission of Lord Bradford, instead of the ordinary road.

An excellent dinner was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Lane, of the Jerningham Arms; at which the Rev. Canon Lloyd presided. After dinner Shifnal Church was inspected, and the party broke up shortly before 7 o'clock; full of gratitude to the venerable Miss Evans of Boscobel, the Earl of Bradford, and his brother, the Hon. and Rev. J. R. O. Bridgeman, Rev. J. Brooke, and the Rev. H. G. De Bunsen, for the assistance they had afforded them.

POETS OF WALES AND THE BORDERS.

Qui vult venire post me abneget semetipsum.

Bot he that wyl come after Crist,
And kyndlé bere his cros,
And crucyfê his caren with love and Charyté,
Leve thou me that his love schal not turne to losse,
Both fore his myerd and hys mede rewardyd schal he be,
Ther is no tong that con tel, hert thenkene ye se,
That joye, that jocundnes, that Jhesus wyl joyn hym to.
Ne the melodé, ne the myrry minstrasye,
Hit is without comparisoun wele withouten woo,
and love that lastis ay.
That joy hit schal never sesse,
Bot ever endoyre and ezever encreesse;
Thus with rest and with pesse

I make a loveday.

JOHN AUDELAY.

[Audelay was a monk at Haghmon, near Shrewsbury, at the commencement of the 15th century. Mr. J. O. Halliwell, in a preface to a selection from Audelay's Poems, printed for the Percy Society, says—"With regard to the dialect in which these poems are written, it would be both difficult and unsatisfactory to make a comparison of them with the present language of Shropshire. Mr. Hartshorne has exhibited the modern Salopian dialect very fully; but the similarities are not very easily perceptible. The tendency to turn *o* into *a*, and to drop the *h*, may be recognized in the following pages, as *aid* for *hold*, &c. *I* is still turned into *e*, which may be regarded one of Audelay's dialectical peculiarities, especially in the prefixes to the verbs; but the *ch* for *sh* or *sch*, so common in Audelay, has not found a place in Mr. Hartshorne's glossary. There is much uncertainty in reasoning on the early provincial dialects, owing to the wide difference between the broad and the more polished specimens of the language of the same county; and the present work can be by no means considered as affording an example of the broadest and purest early Salopian dialect.]

Henry Vaughan, born 1621, at Newton-on-Usk, near Brecon.

HIS MORNING TUNE

When in the East the dawn doth blush
Here, cool fresh spirits the air brush,
Herbs straight get up, flowers peep and spread,
Trees whisper praise and bow the head,
Birds, from the shades of night released,
Look round about, then quit the nest,
And with united gladness sing
The glory of the morning's king;
The hermit hears, and with meek voice
Offers his own up, and their joys:
Then prays that all the world might be
Blest with as sweet an unity.

CURRENT NOTES.

We learn from the *Athenæum* that one of the Uppingham masters has in the press a detailed narrative of the school's transmigration to Borth, and its sojourn there during 1876-7. So remarkable an event as the temporary moving of a whole school to a distant site and its experiences in its impromptu quarters, was worthy of record, and ought to attract readers even outside those specially interested in the school. The volume, under the title of 'Uppingham by the Sea,' will shortly be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co.

It is said that Mr. Lewis Morris, the writer of the Epic of Hades, will preside on the chair day at Menai Bridge Eisteddfod. Mr. Morris, as many of our readers know, is the great grandson of Llewelyn Ddu o Fôn.

The *Athenæum* says :—Professor Hugo Schuchardt gives, in the *Allgemeine Zeitung* of Augsburg, the continuation of his 'Keltische Briefe,' which he was obliged to interrupt in 1876 through illness and other pressing occupation. He writes from Carnarvon, Rhyl, Bala, and other places. One would have expected some new views with regard to the language, costumes, and history of Wales, since he says that he does not intend to copy from guide-books. We find, on the contrary, that he does give nothing else but what can be found in guide-books. Even his remark that Snowdon is an erroneous translation of the name *Eryri*, which must not be derived from *eira* or *eiry*, "snow," but from *eryr*, "eagle," is old enough. He concludes by saying that he has been seven weeks in Wales, and has learnt nothing. He could not endure sermons ; he began twenty books, and finished none ; he made no excursion with a scientific object ; and, what grieves him most, he did not copy a single manuscript. Whilst many of his colleagues bring back from their excursions in the long vacations heaps of copy ready for publication, he brought with him only a withered flower in his hat which Miss Owen (some kind old lady at Bala) abominated. How romantic a German professor can be if he is inspired like Prof. Schuchardt ! However, instead of describing continually the unendurable sermons, or the Sunday schools, where he was surprised to find that the Welsh know the Bible better than German professors, or even the pair of dark eyes of a girl at Bala, which the professor found it worth while to follow into the church (where, again, the sermon and the prayers were insupportable), Prof. Schuchardt would have done better to read books and copy manuscripts, as a learned German should.

JULY 10, 1878.

NOTES.

KING CHARLES IN THE OAK.—The famous Shropshire oak in which Charles the Second found refuge always calls up in the mind the name of Pendrel. You have never, I think, given the "Inscription on a Tomb in the Churchyard of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, London, over the body of his majesty's preserver." Here it is :—

Here lies Richard Pendrell : Preserver and Conductor of His Majesty, King Charles the Second, after his escape from Worcester Fight, in the year 1651, who died, Feb. 8, 1671.

Hold passenger, here's shrouded in this hearse,
Unparell'd Pendrell through the universe.
Like where the eastern star, from heaven gave light,
To three lost Kings, so he in such dark night,
To Briton's Monarch lost, by adverse war,
On earth appear'd, a second eastern star,
A pole aster in her rebellion main,
A pilot to her royal Sovereign came ;
Now to triumph in heaven's eternal sphere,
He is advanced, for his just steaerge here !
Whilst Albion's Chronicle with matchless fame,
Embalms the story of great Pendrell's name.

The *Arminian Magazine* (dated 1788) from whence I copy this, heads it, "Doggerel : or a good story badly told."
NEMO.

OSWESTRY RANGERS.—Reference has of late been made in the Papers of the *Shropshire Archaeological Society* ; and earlier in *Bye-gones*, to this corps. In looking over some old newspapers the other day I met with the following :—

At a Meeting of the Committee of the OSWESTRY RANGERS, held at the Cross Keys Inn, in Oswestry, the 15th day of November, 1802, in pursuance of a Resolution made at a General Meeting of the Corps, held at Morton Common, on Friday, the 12th instant :

GEORGE HENRY WARRINGTON, Esq., in the Chair.
It was resolved ; That the following letter should be presented to OWEN ORMSBY, Esq., expressive of the deep concern felt by the Corps at his resignation, and the high sense they entertain of his good conduct and unremitting attention to their discipline, welfare, and prosperity, and that Major WARRINGTON be requested to transmit the same.

"Oswestry, 15th Nov., 1802.—Sir,—The Oswestry Rangers cannot avoid expressing their very deep regret with which they have received your letter announcing your resignation of the command of the Corps. They beg leave to offer you their best acknowledgments for your good conduct to them during the time they had the honour to serve under you, and also for the unremitting attention you have at all times shown to their discipline, welfare, and prosperity, and to request you to accept their heartfelt wishes for the speedy re-establishment of your health, and the enjoyment of every other happiness. Signed on behalf of the Corps.—G. H. WARRINGTON."

Resolved ; That the above resolutions be inserted forthwith in the County papers : and the Appointments of the last General Meeting be forwarded to the Court of Lieutenancy for the County, for his Majesty's approbation.

Adjourned until further orders :—

ACT. DAVENPORT,
Adjutant.
ED. EDWARDS,
Secretary.

G. H. WARRINGTON.
LAWTON PARRY.
WILLIAM ROBERTS.
EDWARD OWEN.
EDWARD B. MARRIOTT.
JOHN CROXON, jun.

Early in 1803 the papers announced the following promotions in the Corps :—Capt. Warrington to be Major ; Lieut. L. J. Venables to be Captain, and Cornet L. Parry to be Lieutenant. JARCO.

QUERIES.

SIR MARTIN FROBISHER.—In a little book just published by Longmans, entitled "The Life of Sir Martin Frobisher, Knight, containing a narrative of the Spanish Armada ; by the Rev. Frank Jones, B.A.," it is stated that "The Frobisher family moved from Chirk, in North Wales, to Yorkshire, about the middle of the fourteenth century ; the orthography of their patronymic being Furbisher, Furbiser, or Ffourbyssher. In both localities they allied themselves with old county families. The art of marrying well was one of their accomplishments." With what Denbighshire families were they allied ? Further on Mr. Jones narrates the voyage of the "Gabriel" and the "Michael" to discover Cathay, and states that the latter was commanded by "Owen Gryffyn," a Welshman, who "exhibited the national characteristics of zeal without perseverance." Who was this Owen Gryffyn ? The author speaks of him as deserting Frobisher and returning to England ; but I fail to find any account of this, or indeed any mention of the Welshman at all in the notices of Sir Martin in ordinary biographical dictionaries. ROATH.

A MERIONETHSHIRE BARD.—In an old-bookseller's catalogue the other day, I met with the following (I presume nearly complete) list of musical productions by "the famous Welsh Bard," Edward Jones, of Llanddervel. If it has not previously appeared in print, it may fairly claim that honour from the Editor of *Bye-gones*.

Popular Cheshire Melodies, dedicated to Sir John Fleming, Leicester, Bart. Folio, very humorous plate by Rowlandson, fine copy, 16s. 6d. 1798. [Marked on fly leaf, "Rare, £1 11s. 6d."]

Musical Miscellany for the Harp or Harpsicord, plate by Burney, 1797.—A choice collection of Italian Songs, with Music, 2 Vols. folio, fine copies, uncut, 10s. 6d.

Do. with Maltese Melodies, or National airs and dances. 2 Vols. fine copies, 10s. 6d. 1797.

Lyric Airs, consisting of Greek, Arabian, Turkish, Chinese, and Moorish National Songs and Melodies, with Music. Folio, humorous coloured plate by Rowlandson, fine copy, boards, very scarce, 10s. 6d. 1804.

Select Beauties of National Melodies, with Music, Folio, frontispiece by Burney, fine copy, 4s. 6d. 1813.

Choice Collection of Italian Songs. Folio, sewed, 4s. 6d. 1797. Musical and Poetical Relicks of the Welsh Bards, preserved by Tradition and authentic MSS., from very remote antiquity, edited by Ed. Jones of Llanddervall Merioneth, also Dissertation on the Musical Instruments of the Aboriginal Britons. Folio, the Music and words engraved; frontispiece by Louthborough, 10s. 6d. For the Author. 1794. [Williams in his Catalogue of Welsh books, 1811, styles this very scarce, and prices it at £2 10s.]

Bardic Museum of Primitive British Literature, with English Translations, the Ancient War Tunes, &c., by Ed. Jones; never before published. Folio, with Music, and finely coloured frontispiece by Rowlandson, boards, 10s. 6d., 1802. [This forms a second volume to the Musical and Poetical Relicks.]

Musical Relicks and Bardic Museum of the Welsh Bards and Druids, two vols., Folio, coloured frontispiece by Rowlandson and Louthborough, and Music, fine copy, half green Morocco, very neat, £1 4s. Rare. 1794-1802.

The only one of the series in my own possession, and indeed the only one of special interest to me as a Cheshire Collector, is the first in the list, viz., "Popular Cheshire Melodies." This is a thin folio of 19 pages, including engraved title, but with pp. 12 and 13 left blank, as if for the insertion of another piece—an intention which, for some reason or other, was never carried out. The music consists of "The Cheshire Man," harmonized for the harp, harpsichord, and tambourine, and with the well-known words attached. Cheshire Rounds, Cheshire Marches, &c., follow, as also "The Shropshire Round," with variations, by E. Jones. The frontispiece title is a clever etching by the celebrated T. Rowlandson, illustrative of the song "The Cheshire Man." Now, it would be interesting to learn something more of this "famous Welsh bard," as the modern catalogue terms him, and especially as to the place of his birth, and where and when he died. If a "chaired bard," some correspondent may be able to say at what Eisteddfod he was elevated to that dignity, and what was his bardic name. He is scarcely likely to have been content with the unpoetic name of "Jones."

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

[An interesting notice of Jones ("Bardd y brenin") will be found in Williams's *Eminent Welshmen*. Any additional particulars from other sources will be acceptable.—Ed.]

REPLIES.

HUGH THOMAS OF HENDREF (June 12, 1878).

Young Hugh Owen Thomas of Hendre certainly died in Ireland, in his minority, but it has escaped my recollection that he was killed in a duel. He was born in the same year, 1770, as was the late universally popular Col. Vaughan of Rôg, brother to Sir Robert William Vaughan, Bart. Attached to the Hendre estate was Garthangharad, and a property at Nigwl Ucha, in Llleyn, but the estate, though a good one, was not, altogether, very large. Upon the death of Hugh Thomas it was divided between his relations and heirs. W.

Having read "M.A.'s" query about Hugh Thomas of Hendref, I was amused that Col. Anwyl's name should be connected with the occurrence of the duel, never having heard of his having been in Ireland. Perhaps the following may throw some light on the subject. There was a Captain Anwyl and a doctor of the same name in the Royal Merioneth Rifles, who went over to Ireland during the rebellion. I believe one Kendrick and Col. Vaughan

xxxx.

were to fight a duel. Capt. Anwyl was Col. Vaughan's second. The pistols were loaded by the Doctor, who, the story goes, loaded with red currant jam or jelly instead of bullets, and Kendrick being hit, seeing all the red blood, as he imagined, said he was wounded. Explanations ensued, and instead of ill feeling, friendship for many long years was the result of the Doctor's trick. There is a cup in the possession of Captain Anwyl, of Eryl Aran, Bala, bearing this inscription:—"A Token of Respect from the Rl. Merioneth M. To W. W. Anwyl, Esq., their late surgeon," with Prince of Wales's feathers in middle. There is no date. Query: Might it not be Capt. Anwyl or the Doctor who was the friend of the unfortunate officer who was shot, and not Col. Anwyl? I believe Capt. Anwyl was the Colonel's brother, and who was commandant of the Isle of Wight, living at the Priory in that Island. GWYNIAID.

MR. J. CRESSETT PELHAM (July 25, 1877).—A few of the eccentricities of this gentleman have already been narrated, and in the Salopian magazine issued at Madeley we have some further references to him in the numbers for May and June, 1878. The writer says:—

John Cressett Pelham sat for the county [of Salop] in 1831: there had been no contest for 110 years, and this was the last contest previous to the division of the county by the Reform Act of 1832. He also contested Shrewsbury, but was unsuccessful, in 1832; he was successful in 1835 but was thrown out in the contest in 1837, when Richard Jenkins, Esq., R. A. Slaney, Esq., and G. H. Dashwood, Esq., were candidates. Mr. Pelham was accredited with having been the means of obtaining for his poorer countrymen the great boon of getting the duty removed from salt. It is said that on one occasion, in order to show the importance of this condiment he gave a feast, but excluded salt from every dish.

Mr. Pelham seems to have taken a novel and striking method of convincing honourable members of the value of salt as a "condiment," and one that only "an eccentric" could have successfully adopted. We are told that

he actually had two great basins of gruel prepared and taken down to the House of Commons, where he insisted upon the Opposition tasting it, one having salt and the other not; urging at the same time that oatmeal in one form or another was the poor man's food.

Your readers may believe this or not. I will not vouch for the fact that it has been recorded by Hansard.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

JULY 17, 1878.

NOTES.

FRENCH PRISONERS OF WAR.—The following letter was found on a loose leaf with some other papers in which a number of books received from a London dealer were wrapped. The leaf appears to have been torn out of a book in which it formed part of Appendix No. II. The title of the book is not given, but it was printed partly in French and partly in English. As French Prisoners of War were known to be placed in many towns in England, at the date of the letter, it is desirable as a point of history to know if there were any confined at that time in any other town in Wales besides Pembroke.

Pembroke, May 21, 1760.

We the undersigned being Prisoners of War to his Majesty the King of Great Britain, and now in confinement at Pembroke, South Wales, beg leave for ourselves and fellow prisoners in this place, in number eighteen, to return our most sincere and hearty thanks to the Honourable Committee for clothing French Prisoners of War, for their generous and seasonable

supply of clothing to us; without which many amongst us must have been in the most distressed condition, from which we are happily relieved by the necessities delivered to us by the order of the Honourable Committee. In grateful acknowledgement whereof we have hereunto put our names, this twenty-first day of May, 1760.

The mark of Cotorel,
Jean × Ragou, F. Graverend.

Among the eighteen prisoners of war at this place, there is no officer of any rank; and of the private men, but the above two that can write their names: but all expressed great thankfulness for the favours received, in presence of

Morgan Meylett, Mayor,
J. Ferior, Agent for Prisoners of War.

LLALLAWG.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Mar. 13, 1878).—*John Lloyd*. I find this name amongst the list of Mayors, under the date 1769. He died in 1797, and Mr. T. Longueville Jones succeeded him in the office of Coroner. Mr. Lloyd I believe was a solicitor, and Cathrall states (but without giving his authority) that the Oswestry Association for the Prosecution of Felons was formed in 1771 by Mr. Lloyd, and that he was the originator of these societies in England. I have been told that he was the father of Mr. Robert Lloyd, who built "The Big House" in Church Street (now divided into "Belan House" and "The Vicarage.") Mr. Robert Lloyd died at Swanhill in 1803. He was one of the original guardians of the House of Industry, in 1791, representing Selattyn. His daughters became, respectively, Mrs. Gatacre and Mrs. Wynne Eyton.

JARCO.

A WELSH POET AND PROPHET.—The following legend of Montgomeryshire is related in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*:—

Soon after we pass Cemmaes Road Station, we may observe to our right a farm house close to the Dovey, just at the point of the confluence of a large brook with the river. This is called Mathavarn. In 1470, a 'great poet and scholar,' one David Llwyd ap Llewelyn, lived here, and one night entertained the Earl of Richmond (afterwards Henry VII.) as his guest. Henry was on his way from Milford Haven to Bosworth, and was naturally anxious to take safe peeps into futurity; so he asked his host (who added the science of astrology to his stores of knowledge) what would most probably be the issue of his journey? Now Davie was a wise as well as a learned man, and his poetic nature was balanced by the possession of a practical wife. So David asked to sleep on the question; and when the shades of evening and the matrimonial curtains had closed around them, the wife had little difficulty in discovering that her husband's mind was troubled, and what that trouble was. So she recommended that Richmond should be told a flattering tale; for, said she, "If you prophesy good for him, and he gains the victory, he will reward us; and if he doesn't, and gets killed, he won't trouble us!" This circumstance is said to have given Wales a proverb, "Cynghor gwraig heb ei olyn," which being very freely rendered, signifies, "The unsought advice of your better-half is worth taking."

The other day, in an old newspaper, I found another version of the story, with the following addition:—"The morning soon came, and the duke was delighted to hear that the heavenly bodies smiled on him. 'And, Lloyd,' said he, 'As I shall win, lend me your grey horse.' Lloyd would have said No, but dare not, so it was at the duke's service; and he rode the same horse to the battle of Bosworth, but it was never heard whether Lloyd got his horse again, or was promoted to honour." N.W.S.

[A version of this anecdote, without the addition, is given in the *Cambro-Briton*, vol. 1, page 310. One is also published as a note on p. 449 of the Works of Lewis Glyn Cothi.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

DYLFIE (May 8, 1878).—This Ecclesiastical District was formed in the year 1856, and comprises parts of the mother parishes of Darowen, Llanbrynmair, Penegoes,

and Trefeglwys. Llanbrynmair contributed 1,200 acres, and Trefeglwys 6,500 acres. Will the incumbents of the two other parishes kindly inform the readers of *Bye-gones* the acreage taken from their respective livings?

IDLOES.

LORD MAYOR SWINNERTON.—The following scanty biography occurs in Price's *History of Oswestry*, p. 132:—

JOHN SWINNERTON, son of Thomas Swinnerton, of this town, being bred a merchant-taylor in London, was lord mayor thereof, in 1612. He founded a monthly sermon to be preached in this church, and the churches of Shrewsbury, Ellesmere, and Whitchurch, with an annual bequest to the poor of each place.

The authority for this is quoted as "Rev. W. Roberts's MS." Mr. Roberts was rector of Whittington and Selattyn; where is his MS. deposited? The Swinnerton charity has long been lost to Oswestry (see Reprint of *Bye-gones*, 1875, p. 209), the money being expended in obtaining the "Street Act" in 1808-9. What more is known of Lord Mayor Swinnerton? I have seen him styled "Sir John." Why was he knighted? Is the family still represented in our neighbourhood? As far back as 1769, in a Turnpike Minute-book, I have seen the name "John Swinnerton of Pentreclauth, labourer," appointed "Deputy-Surveyor at twelpence per day," and half a century earlier we have the name in the Parish Registers; in 1793, there is also "Phillip Swinnerton," a constable appointed by the Oswestry Incorporation. When the siege of Oswestry was raised, July 3, 1644, by Sir Thomas Myddelton, amongst the prisoners taken was a "Captain Swynerton." Was he of the same family? JARCO.

REPLIES.

SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN (July 4, 1877). At this date "N.W.S." asked at what works in the neighbourhood of Oswestry Sir Watkin employed miners in 1801, and supplied to their families grain at a reduced price? In the beginning of this century there were collieries at Llwynymaen opened by Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Longueville's grandfather. Llwynymaen at that time was not entirely Sir Watkin's: Mr. Gibbons had a small portion of the estate, and so had a gentleman living at Wern; and their shares were afterwards purchased by Sir Watkin. In an article on "Shropshire Patriotism" in the first volume of the "Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society" (1878) it is stated (p. 275) that the Llwynymaen colliers gave £4 6s. 6d. to the Patriotic Fund of 1798. F.

WELSH JUDGES (June 19, 1878).—I have always understood that the Welsh Judges did not vary their circuits, as the English judges do; and the following extract from a List of Peers, M.P.s., and officials, in 1769, will go to prove it:—

Judges of the Grand Sessions for the County in Wales, Chester, Montgomery, Flint, and Denbigh Shires;—John Morton, Esq., ch. just.; Taylor White, Esq.

Brecon, Glamorgan, and Radnor Shires;—John Williams, Esq., William Whitaker, Esq.

Cardigan, Pembroke, and Caermarthen Shires;—Jn. Pullen, Edw. Poore, Esquires.

Anglesey, Carnarvon, and Merioneth Shires;—Hon. Daines Barrington, Esq., James Hayes, Esq.

This list follows that of the English judges, who are all given under their respective Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, &c. G. G.

In June, 1802, Mr. Hugh Leycester, attorney-general of the Chester circuit, was appointed to the Welsh Judgeship on the Anglesea Great Sessions, in the place of Sir Thomas Manners Sutton, solicitor-general, who re-

tired. Mr. Manley was appointed to the attorney-generalship on the Chester circuit, rendered vacant by Mr. Leicester's appointment. It will thus be seen that the judgeships were for separate Welsh circuits, and not for the whole of the Principality. N.W.S.

On the 14th of June, 1828, the late Earl Cawdor addressed a letter to Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst on the "Administration of Justice in Wales," in which his Lordship pointed out several glaring abuses, one of the most notorious being the following—

Sir,—Having been directed by A. B. to apply to you for £0 1s. 0d. due to him, I have to request you will pay me that sum, together with my charge of five shillings, on or before Saturday next, as I shall otherwise be obliged to commence an action against you for the recovery thereof without further notice.—I am, your obedient servant, C. D.

Soon after the publication of Lord Cawdor's letter, a Royal Commission was issued, and two English Judges were sent to South Wales, North Wales, and Chester, who held the Lent Assizes on the circuit in 1831. Before the abolition of the Welsh judicature, the same judges attended, four for South Wales, and the same number (I believe) for North Wales and Chester. F.S.A.

Brecon.

THE REV. RICHARD EDWARDS (June 26, 1878).—In the *Gent's Mag.* for July, 1807, there was an account of the monuments in Oswestry Church, in which was given the following inscription from a brass plate:—

The body of Svsanna ye wife of Richard Edwards vicar of the parish daughter of Iohn Parry of Llanbeder in the county of Denbigh Esqr was here interred the 13th day of Ivne 1668

Here alsoe the body of her hysband Richard Edwards vicar of Oswestry son of Robert Edwards of Rhyd y croese in the parish of Lansilin in the county of Denbigh gent was in terred the 24th of Ivne 1680 the memorie of the Ivst is Blessed Pro x 7

As was stated in *Bye-gones* in 1874 (see p. 47 of reprint for that year) Mr. Edwards's death was recorded in the diary of Philip Henry, in which he was spoken of as a "pious, peaceable, and good man." NEMO.

BALLOTING FOR THE MILITIA (May 29, 1878).—Old newspaper records on this subject are curious as shewing the fluctuation in the market price of "substitutes," and in the pluck and patriotism, or perhaps we should rather say bounce or Jingoism of Britishers. Thus in 1795 there was such a row at Denbigh because the public anticipated an addition to the militia, by means of a ballot, that a riot ensued, and six men were committed for trial. On the other hand, early in 1797, when the first allotment of supplementary militia was made in Shropshire, "Several respectable tradesmen determined, with a true military spirit, to serve their country personally, and not to hire substitutes." No doubt part of this pluck was due to the fact that active service was not expected, for we find our neighbours in Montgomeryshire, assembling at Cann Office, during the same month, and deciding, under a bond, not to pay more than Two guineas for a substitute. However in a little more than twelve months the aspect of affairs changed, and we are told that, in Sep., 1798, "the price of substitutes in Shrewsbury rose to Twenty-guineas each," and that some were punished for engaging themselves to one man and then selling their service to another. Between these dates the war-fever had been very bad indeed, and the nation had been bled very freely in compulsory and voluntary taxation; so, as usual, there was a reaction; and the British Lion roared as gently as a sucking dove.

N.W.S.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(June 5, 1878)

BALDWIN, SIR SAMUEL, was born at Diddlesbury, in the county of Salop, in 1618, and having been educated at Baliol College, Oxford, he proceeded to the Inner Temple to study the Common Law. In 1669 he was created a Serjeant, and three years afterwards King's Serjeant. He is said to have been very eminent in his profession, and a sound lawyer. He died in 1683, and is buried in the Inner Temple Church.

BALDWIN, SIR TIMOTHY, of Diddlesbury, Shropshire, was born there in the year 1619, and in 1634, he was admitted of Baliol College, Oxford, and the following year he became a law student of the Inner Temple. His ability was such that the University selected him as one of the counsel to appear before the Parliamentary Visitation. In 1663 he published "Zouch's Tract on the Admiralty," and was made a Master in Chancery, and also Chancellor of the Diocese of Chester. "Good Tim Baldwin," as he was called by his chums, had the reputation of being one of the very best "book lawyers" of his day, a race almost unknown now, for the "handy man" is master of clients, courts, and public applause; the genuine book-worm being altogether neglected.

BANASTER, RICHARD, a very unworthy Salopian had been for years the trusted servant of the Duke of Buckingham, the friend, supporter, and afterwards traitorous subject of Richard the Third. The Duke having rebelled against the King was driven to seek shelter under the roof of Banaster; a great reward being offered for his apprehension, this man was base enough to betray the unfortunate nobleman to the sheriff of his county, and in a few short days his life was sacrificed to the merciless demands of the King. The vile informer took nothing by his treason, for "Kyng Richard gave him not one farthing, saying that he which could be untrue to so good a master, would be false to all others. Howbeit some saie he had a smal office or a ferme to stoppe his mouth withal." Let the story of this man's success be remembered by all proud Salopians, to his everlasting dishonour, and to their own praise, for he is but one of a thousand, the first to shew up in its ugly enormity the crime of ingratitude, but in all its beauty the fealty and true honour of the sons of Salopia, as a whole.

BANASTER, SIR ROBERT, born at Wem, in Shropshire, was bred a courtier, and served under three of the English Kings. His family had been long settled in this his native county, but he himself had little connection with it. His duties at the Court had brought him into communication with some of the principal families of England, into three of which he married, and by one of his wives he got some property in Northamptonshire, where he died in 1649, at a great age. His remains lie within the church of Passenham, where a monument is put up to his memory, by his only daughter by his last wife, and who carried that property to Lord Maynard on her marriage to that nobleman.

BARKER, THOMAS, a successful artist, who established himself at Bath, was born near Pontypool, in Monmouthshire, in the year 1769. His "Woodman" is a well-known work of art, and has been universally popularized by its reproduction on signboards, earthenware, tobacco boxes, and almost every article upon which a design could be printed or painted. He was a person of great talent and ability, and in his peculiar style a master in his art.

BARNSTON, ROGER, son of Roger Barnston, of Churton, in Cheshire, was born at Chester in the year 1709, and

educated for the Church. He accepted the curacy of St. Michael's church in his native city, and afterwards the rectory of Conover, Salop. In January, 1739, he became prebendary in the Chester Cathedral church. His family had been long connected with that city, and both in his time and afterwards they exercised considerable influence there. This excellent man died in 1782.

BARNSTON, ROGER, best known at Chester as Col. Barnston, was born in that city, and resided there for the greater part of his life. Early in life he held the rank of Lieut.-Col. in the Cheshire Militia, and on the renewal of the French war in 1803 he received the appointment of Colonel, a post which he filled with great honour, and to the public satisfaction. His name will, however, remain celebrated at Chester as the leader of the "independent party who strove to break down the domination of the Grosvenor family in that city." Descending from a much older stock than the Grosvenors, he commanded an amount of personal respect in the county which gave him immense influence, and he possessed, moreover, a charm of manner that secured the love, reverence, and confidence of his followers. He struggled for the political liberty of his native city for a long period of time, and succeeded at last in a temporary triumph over his powerful adversaries, and in opening the door to independent candidates for political distinction, in spite, it may be said, of the Eaton interest. When he died the common people mourned for him with a true and sincere affection, for in him they had lost a real friend.

BARTHOLOMEW, JAMES, was born at Northwich, Cheshire, in the year 1802. In early life he was the subject of divine impressions; and having joined the society in Sheffield, in the sixteenth year of his age, he offered himself at the age of twenty-five to the Wesleyan Conference, and was appointed travelling preacher to Alexandria. He travelled in Egypt and Palestine, for five years, after which he returned to England, and was employed in the ministry at home for twenty years more. He died in 1854.

BATHER, EDWARD, a native of Meole Brace, near Shrewsbury, was born in 1780, and became a pupil at Rugby under Dr. James in 1788, from whence he proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford. In 1802, he succeeded to the family living at Meole Brace, and there he spent the remainder of his days in the useful administration of the high duties of his ministerial office. He was made prebend of Lichfield, and for twenty years he acted as Archdeacon of Salop. His published works are numerous, mostly sermons, all of them sound in doctrine and able in composition, they cannot be read without feeling that he was a godly, earnest, and devoted minister of the gospel. He died in 1847.

BAGLEY, CORNELIUS, D.D., was born at Aske, in the county of Salop, in 1751, and educated at Whitchurch Grammar School. He was curate to Dr. Congers, of Deptford, and afterwards to Mr. Fletcher, at Madeley, and in 1788 he became minister of St. James's church, Manchester. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him in consideration of the merits of a work he had published, entitled "An entrance into the Sacred Language." He died in 1812.

BAUGH, ROBERT, "the ingenious, cheerful, and benevolent," who died near Llanymynech in 1832, at the ripe age of eighty-four, is claimed by Cheshire, Salop, and Hereford for a son. It is enough for our purpose that he should be a "Borderer." So long as his engraved maps of North Wales, and his own fine map of Shropshire, endure his memory will find a warm corner in the hearts of

thousands. To those who have seen him preside over the psalmody at Llanymynech church, his merry face and pious devotions will ever be present to their minds; and to those who have not enjoyed that privilege, but who want to appreciate the man, let them look at the beautiful vignettes which adorn his maps, and they will admit that Robert Baugh was a man of whom the world was not worthy.

BAUGH, THOMAS, was born in Cheshire, and having been sent to Westminster school for his education, he was, in 1594, elected thence to Oxford where, in 1601, he became M.A. Wood quaintly remarks of him that "in seeking after the rectory of St. Sepulchre, in London, he found a sepulchre thence—being buried there." Freeman, the poet, said upon this—

To lose by fortune and to win by fate,
Such was the case of learned Baugh of late;
He sought St. Pulcher's where (though not his lot
To have St. Pulchre's) yet a grave he got.

He was himself a poet, and some verses of his were printed in 1605, in "Musa Hospitalis."

BAKTER, WILLIAM, an eminent grammarian and critic, was born at Llanluggan, near Shrewsbury, in 1650, but the Welsh deny this, and assert that he was born on the Welsh side of the Severn. And there is some ground for this opinion, for it is admitted on all hands that when he went to Harrow school, he knew no language but the Welsh. Be that as it may, he was not long in shewing his wonderful abilities as a linguist, and from that time to his death in 1723, he published book after book full of learned and useful remarks upon a variety of subjects. To this day scholars will find in Baxter's labours a fund of useful information, a store of rare learning, and some things to smile at—because they cannot understand them.

BEALE, JOHN, who in 1656 wrote a work called "Herefordshire Orchards"—a second edition being published in 1724—was a native of Shropshire, and a descendant, it is believed, of Robert Beale, a learned civilian in the reign of Elizabeth. Bartholomew Beale, who in 1655 purchased the manor of Hopton Castle, is supposed to be his father, but the best title he can have to commendation is met with in his own work.

BEATTIE, WILLIAM, a native of Monmouthshire, who had in his youth become connected with the Wesleyan Methodists, was in 1848 admitted to the ministry of that body. He had acquired an excellent education at the Didsbury College, and gave promise of great ability and usefulness as a preacher, but suffering from pulmonary disease his labours were abruptly ended, and he died at Crickhowell in 1852, aged twenty-six years. But he died in the happy possession of the faith which carried him up to the unseen One—a faith that converted his short life on earth into a garden of delight, and winged his soul to the glorious inheritance, which Christ had secured for all, who like him—died in faith.

BEAUCHAMP, JOAN, who died in the year 1434, widow of William Beauchamp, Earl of Abergavenny, appears upon good authority to have been born in Monmouthshire. In her will she directs that her body should be buried in the choir of the Friars at Hereford, the precise directions given by her for her funeral, and the gifts which she provides for the parish churches where her remains may rest on the way to the grave, are humorous to modern readers; but there is an air of humility and piety pervading the language of her testament that leads to the belief that she desired to have all done in a Christian and religious manner, for she was most anxious that prayer should be offered up continually for the repose of her

soul, a treasure which she bequeaths to her "Saviour, Jesus Christ, through the beseeching of His blessed Mother Mary, and all the company of heaven." Good old soul, who can blame her for so exactly following the dim light which carried her thus to her happy ending.

BEAUFORT, HENRY, DUKE OF, who was so created in 1682, was son of Edward, the second Marquis of Worcester, and born in Monmouthshire. He was steadily attached to the Stuarts, and refused to subscribe to the oaths of allegiance to William the Third; but unlike his ancestors, he did not take up arms against the Government of the day. There is a curious story related of him in the history of Monmouthshire, thus:—"The Marchioness of Worcester was ordered by her grandfather, the late Duke of Beaufort, to lie in of her first child in a house lately built within the Castle of Monmouth, near the spot of ground and space where our great hero, Henry the Fifth, was born," and upon that evidence we may assume that the next Duke mentioned was born there. He died in 1699.

BEAUFORT, HENRY, DUKE OF, grandson of the last named, who in 1714 succeeded his grandfather, Charles, Marquis of Worcester, as third Duke, had died in the life time of his father, in 1698, and his son Henry, born in 1684, succeeded to the dukedom upon the death of his grandfather, 1699, and his son, the above-named, must therefore have been the child who "had been ordered to be born at Monmouth." A moment's reflection will shew the careful reader that the "curious story" referred to in the last notice had not much to commend it to notice, for the second Duke did not marry the mother of this child before 1707, eight years after his grandfather's death, and if there is any truth in the story it must refer to some other person, and not to the first Duke. The nobleman now under notice married Frances Scudamore in 1729, and was divorced from her in 1743. He died childless in 1745, when his honours passed to his brother.

BEDDOWES, JOHN, a native of Herefordshire, and a benefactor to Radnorshire, is worthy of mention for the warm interest he took in education when its blessings were almost unknown to the poor of this country. He in 1568 gave lands and tenements to the value of £30 per annum for the maintenance of a free Grammar School for the education of children born in the town and parish of Presteigne. The Rev. Miles Hawkins appears to have been the first master appointed to the school. That was in 1595. In the year 1847 the Vicar of that parish reported to the Educational Commissioners that this endowed school was capable of affording instruction to all the boys in the parish, but that the number admitted to its benefits amounted to about sixty-two! The population at that time was something under 2,500 souls, and this charity, therefore, may be taken as not fulfilling the will of the donor, although in strictness it might possibly be held to do so. In any case Mr. Beddowes's benefaction entitles him to remembrance as a true patriot, who had the good of his poor countrymen at heart.

BENBOW, JOHN, a native of Shrewsbury, had distinguished himself greatly at the surprise of Shrewsbury during the civil war, upon the side of the Parliament, but becoming disgusted with the violent proceedings against the King, he left the party, and went over to the royal standard. For this crime he was condemned to death, and to render his punishment the more bitter, his former friend and companion, Col. Mackworth, pronounced the sentence of death upon him. He was shot on the green in front of Shrewsbury Castle, Oct. 15, 1651, a martyr to conviction, but a bright example to all who prefer death and honour than to enjoy life with degradation.

BENBOW, JOHN, son of the gallant seaman of that name, whose services in the British navy made him so famous, was born at Shrewsbury, and is best known in connection with a remarkable shipwreck in 1701, on the coast of Madagascar, where both he and his crew were made prisoners and marched into the interior of the country. The courage and ability with which he managed afterwards to carry his men to Fort Dauphin is matter of history. Benbow employed his time in writing a description of the southern part of Madagascar. This MS. unfortunately perished by fire, and thus an interesting contribution to our stores of knowledge was for ever lost.

BENBOW, WILLIAM, brother of the last named, was also born at Shrewsbury, and bore a very conspicuous part in the memorable battle of Worcester, during the period of the civil war. He was fortunate enough to escape, and to find a place of safe retirement until the Restoration, when he obtained a subordinate post in the Tower. It is related that when Charles the Second visited that fortress he recognised the gallant old soldier, and exclaimed "My old Worcester friend, Colonel Benbow, what do you here?" "I have a place of four score pounds a year in which I serve your Majesty as cheerfully as if it brought me in four thousand a year," replied the Colonel. "Alas," said the King, "is that all that could be found for an old Worcester friend," and bidding him wait upon him next day, he promised to secure something better for him, but before the next day arrived, this true hearted and brave soldier had passed away to a better world, where neither empty honours, nor increased emoluments could be of any service to him.

BENION, SAMUEL, was born at Whixal, near Prees, in Salop, in the year 1673, and having received his education at his native village, and at Wirksworth, in Derbyshire, he, in 1691, went to reside with Mr. Philip Henry at Broad Oak, who employed him in teaching some gentlemen's sons who resided there. In 1695 he proceeded to the Glasgow University, and the following year took his degree of M.A. there. In 1698 he was ordained to the work of the ministry among the Nonconformists at Broad Oak, where he remained until 1706, when he removed to Shrewsbury; there he died in 1708, aged 35. His life has been written by his friend Matthew Henry, and is to be found among his "Miscellaneous Works."

BENNETT, HENRY, was a native of Chester, and largely engaged in the commerce of that city. He did very much to improve and to extend its trade relations with other countries. He was much respected for his sound judgment, and strict impartiality as a magistrate, his readiness to assist the distressed, his zeal for religion and morality, and the gentleness and courtesy he displayed to all men. He died in 1747. There are many such in every community it may be said, but that is a mistake, they are few and far between even in our day, but a century ago, "a foreign merchant" in a place like Chester was both a noted and noticeable man. Henry Bennett was more than that—he was notable.

BENNETT, WILLIAM, a native of Shrewsbury, proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge, for his education, where he became A.B. in 1670, A.M. 1676. In 1681 he was instituted Vicar of St. Chad's in his native town, and there he laboured with acceptance until his death in 1720. He was an exceedingly good man, a good man, when "goodness" was rather laughed at, good to the poor, to the afflicted, but above all a good friend and guardian to all such as desired to live to God.

BENSON, JOHN, son of the Dean of Hereford, and is generally believed to have been born there. He had been educated at Westminster school, and in 1639 proceeded thence by election to Oxford, where in 1675 he became M.A. In 1690 he was made prebendary of Hereford, and succeeded his father in the rectory of Cradley, in the same county, where he remained for thirty-one years. He died in 1713.

BENSON, GEORGE, son of the last named was born at Cradley, in the county of Hereford, and educated at Westminster school, from whence he went by election to Christ Church, Oxford, in 1703. He graduated M.A. in 1710. He wrote one of the poems on the death of Prince George of Denmark, to be seen in the University collection under date 1708.

BENSON, MARTIN, was born at Cradley, in Herefordshire, in the year 1689, and was educated at the Charter House, where he became a scholar in 1703. In 1712 he was elected student of Christ Church, Oxford, and the following year he was ordained deacon; priest in 1715. In 1720 he became prebendary of Salisbury; next year Archdeacon of Berkshire, in 1723 Prebendary of Durham, 1727 Chaplain to the King, 1728 Rector of Bletchley, and in 1734 Bishop of Gloucester, where he died in 1752. He was a very excellent man, kind, benevolent, and assiduous in the discharge of his religious duties. A memorial has been put up to his memory at Gloucester Cathedral by a friend who knew him well, and who loved him for his many virtues.

BERRINGTON, JOSEPH, a gentleman, who in the last century occupied a somewhat prominent position in the ministry of the Roman Catholic Church in England, was born in Shropshire, educated at St. Omer's, and for some years of his life exercised his priestly office in the Romish Church in his native county. He gave offence to his superiors, for although a good Catholic he was undoubtedly "an Englishman first," and very much opposed to the strained doctrine of Papal Supremacy. In the year 1780 he published a work upon "The state and behaviour of English Catholics from the Reformation to 1760;" and if the statements contained in it are to be relied upon, it is clear that a very great change has come over the spirit of the members of that communion in England since that time. He wrote and published other works, most of which are now scarce, not being mentioned in "Thorpe," "Eddowes," or "Lowndes," viz.—"A Letter on Materialism," 1776, "A View of the First Principles of Things," 1779, "The Lives of Abelard and Heloise," 1784, "The History of Henry 2nd and his sons Richard and John," 1790, "Memoirs of Gregory Pangain," 1793, "Letters from Italy," 1796, "A Letter on the Delusion and Persecuting Spirit of Popery," 1779, and in 1814 his "Literary History of the Middle Ages." He was undoubtedly a man of varied and accomplished talent, a ready and able writer, and possessed of a fund of useful and interesting knowledge, the result of careful reading and quick discernment. The date of his death is unknown.

BETTY, WILLIAM HENRY WEST, who set England in a frenzy of delight some seventy years ago, died in London in 1874 at the great age of 83. He was born at Shrewsbury, and after a brief career on the stage, he resided for some time in the neighbourhood of Wem. Lord Hill gave him a commission in the North Shropshire Yeomanry, but his fame does not rest upon his soldiery qualifications, whatever may be said as to his other title to distinction. Some writers affirm that the "Young Roscius" was a paragon of perfection as an actor, whilst others are content to claim for him marvellous powers

for a boy. In any case he has a history, and is entitled to rank among Salopians, as a personage of mark and even of distinction. Some members of his family lie buried in Loppington churchyard.

BEVAN, HENRY, a native of Shrewsbury, born in 1746, was chosen sheriff of Salop in 1795. He had spent most of his life in India, in the military service of the East India Company, where he rose to the rank of Major. He had distinguished himself greatly in many engagements, but at the great battle of Buxar, where he fought under Sir Hector Munroe, he quite outdid himself. He returned to England in 1780, and died in 1807.

BICKERTON, HENRY, a native of Shropshire, son of a gentleman of the same name, was sent to Westminster School for his education, and in his fourteenth year (1739) he was admitted to St. Peter's College. Bishop Cotton, who had some knowledge of his family, says, in a note against his name, that "he was an exceedingly promising youth, a genius in his way, and a capital Latinist, and also a fair Greek scholar," but there does not appear to be any further account of him.

BILL, JOHN, who at one time occupied a very prominent position in England as "the King's printer," was born at Much Wenlock in Shropshire, but the date of his birth is uncertain. He died in 1630, and by his will gave fifteen pounds to his native parish. The family of Bill has existed at Wenlock for several hundred years, and there are some of its members still there. One of the kindred was at one time vicar of the parish.

BILLINGTON, GEORGE HENRY, born at Chester in the year 1827, was educated at the King's School in that city under the eye of the Rev. R. W. Gleadowe, its head master. In 1844 he was nominated by the Corporation of Chester to an "Offley exhibition" at Cambridge, and the trustees of Oldfield's Charity presented him to their exhibition in the same University. He was entered as of Emmanuel College, where he soon gave proofs of his ability by gaining in open competition a sizarship, and other exhibitions in the gift of his College. Upon his election to a scholarship he relinquished the sizarship, and in 1849, when he graduated B.A., he came out as 7th senior optima in the Mathematical Tripos. He was for some years curate of Cardiston, and of Westbury, Salop. Lady Charlotte Lyster, of Rowton Castle, recommended him in 1859 for the curacy of St. Giles's, Dorset, and in 1861 her brother, the Earl of Shaftesbury, procured for him the living of Chabury in the same county. Dr. Moberley, Bishop of Salisbury, appointed him in 1872 one of the Diocesan Inspectors of Schools in his diocese. This honorary post he still holds in conjunction with his Rectory, a fitting tribute to his worth, his attainments, and the consistent career of his life as a sound and liberal evangelical clergyman.

BIRCH, JOHN, a very respectable tradesman at Shrewsbury, and a native of that town, born in 1755, must be mentioned as one of a family who had lived to a very old age in full possession of their faculties, his grandmother being one hundred and two years old when she died, his mother near a hundred, and he was living in 1837, a hale man of eighty-two. His traditional knowledge of Shrewsbury was remarkable, and coming down, as it did, through his own immediate ancestors for a period extending over one hundred and fifty years, it was interesting and possibly reliable. The late Sir John Bickerton Williams said he was "a walking/antiquarian dictionary," and that his local knowledge was not only good but marvellous.

BIRD, RICHARD, son of Alderman Richard Bird, was born in the City of Chester, and having been brought up to trade, settled at Seville, in Spain, where he became a merchant. At his death in 1681, he bequeathed by will a sum of money for the relief of poor, aged citizens of his native place, to be continued annually for ever. A portrait of this worthy Cestrian is hung up in the Town Hall of that city, and his benefactions have given his name a local distinction.

BISHTON, JAMES, of Kilsall, in Shropshire, is deserving of remembrance as one of the most practical suggestors for the improvements of public roads that we have met with. His plans are set out in "Cooke's Salop," and can be read with advantage even now, and to that work the reader must be referred for a description of them. His schemes were discussed in a pamphlet entitled "Bishton's Improvements Considered," and we might gather from it that Mr. Bishton had himself written and published something upon the subject, but there is no trace of his handiwork to be met with in any of our public libraries, nor can we find when he was born, nor when he died.

CURRENT NOTES.

A new antiquarian printing club, called the Record Society, has been formed for Cheshire and Lancashire.

There has lately died, at Birkenhead, W. N. Found, who was at the time of his decease the oldest railway clerk in the world. He booked the first passenger who ever rode on the Manchester and Liverpool line.

At the meeting of the British Archaeological Association on the 12th June "Mr. Crompton described the practices still kept up in Shropshire in relation to the preparation of Simnel Cakes."

The death is announced of Lady Jenkins, the widow of Sir Richard Jenkins, G.C.B., D.C.L., and some time M.P. for the Borough of Shrewsbury. Her ladyship was daughter of Mr. Hugh Spottiswoode, H.E.I.C.S., who was descended from a junior branch of the Berwickshire family of that name, and was married in India in 1824 to the late Sir Richard Jenkins, who was at that time British Resident at Nagpore, and was for his gallant services there created a G.C.B. in 1833. Sir Richard died in 1853.

A WELSH PRAYER BOOK.—The following letter appears in the *Tablet*:—Sir,—In looking over the books of the library of the Right Hon. Lord Petre, happily saved from the late disastrous fire at Thorndon Hall, I came upon a perfect copy of a Welsh Prayer Book, printed in London by J. P. Coghlan, in 1776, entitled—*Allwedd y Nef neu Agoriad o'r Porth i'r Bywyd Tragwyddol Trwy Weddiad Duwiol, ar amryw Achosion, Angenrheidiol a Chyffaddas i bob Christian Ffyddlen*. O gasgliad D. P. Off. SUPERIORUM PERMISSU. (i.e., Key of Heaven, or the Key of the Entrance into Life Everlasting, by godly prayers on various occasions, necessary and suitable to every faithful Christian. Compiled by D. P., a priest).—One of the reasons adduced in the preface, for its publication, is that a hundred years had elapsed since another Welsh Prayer Book—*Allwedd Paradydd* (Key of Paradise) was printed in Germany, and that this had become scarce and difficult to obtain. Can any of your numerous readers furnish any particulars as to the history of these two books and of their compilers, and whether there is any copy of the earlier work extant. Your obedient servant, F. OWEN.

JULY 24, 1878.

NOTES.

NAMES OF PLACES IN WALES.

Maengwynedd, the Cymdu, Cefnnoch and Cwmlwlty, Cwmwynen, Nantfyllon, Glanhafon and Glyn, The Castell, the Cadnant, Maesmochnant and Ceunant, The Henallt, the Gorwallt and Gerwyn.

Gartheryr, Banhadla, Plasucha and Gofla, Plas Moeliwrch, Cefnglanlwrch and Llaniwrch, the Llan, Castellmoch, the Frongoch, the Alltgoch and Clynog, Fronheulog, Llawnog and Lloran.

The Bedran and Scrwan, Wernlydan, Wernlas, Henfacheu, Bodyddon, the Liedron and Llys, Glantanad and Cefnhir, Rhyddir and the Brithdir, Penrhiw and the Briw and Trebrys.

H.R.

A PROTEGE OF GENERAL MYTTON'S.—Mr. George, Parish Clerk of Oswestry, possesses a copy of a letter from the parliamentary general Thomas Mytton to the Corporation of Oswestry, the original of which is included amongst the Mytton MSS. once at Halston. It runs as follows:—

Gentlemen. I am become a suitor to of John George a free man of yor. Towne and one yt hath formerly binne firm and Loyall for ye preservation and defence thereof in time of triall. My desire therefore is yt you would use your uttermost endeavours & afford him yor. and best assistance in makinge him a Burgess thereof att yor. next election wch curtesy to him shall be acknowledged as done to him yt is

Yor. assured friend to serve you,
THOS. MYTTON.

Halston, Jan. 1, 1646.

To the Worth. my good friiends the bayliffes of the Town of Oswaldstree this is sent.

In the old list of Burgesses commencing 1553, or thereabouts, published in *Bye-gones* Mar. 28, 1877, the name of "Richard george, baker," is given, and there is also "Roger gor' baker," which we may presume to stand for George. JARCO.

A PERILOUS PASSAGE.—Aber was in former days the point of departure to Beaumaris across the Lavan sands, which are uncovered to an immense distance at low water, and can then be traversed on foot the whole way with the exception of a short ferry that must be crossed near the latter town. There was frequently some danger incurred in the passage, and many stories of hair-breadth escapes, owing to the unexpected return of the tide, have been related. One of the most curious is that told in the autobiography of Sir John Bramston, who passed the sands in the year 1631:—

One Mr. Fountain and Sir Thomas Cary went along with us, and passinge over the mountains Pen Men Maure, in the narrow passage wee met a gentleman of whome Mr. Fountain and Sir Thomas inquired how the tyde was, whoe told them we might pass well if we made hast; soe they putt on, wee following, not knowinge what has passed. Soe soone as they were downe the mountaine they fell to gallopinge. Neither my father nor my selfe understood at first the meaninge; but findinge the water growe deeper, for it came in rills, wee suspected the sea might be comeinge in, as it was, and soe I desired my father to gallop too. The sands, save only in those rills, were carpet waves. At last wee came to the place where they were (I meane Sir Thomas and Mr. Fountain) expectinge the ferrie boat, which was at Beaumaris and the ferriemen drinkinge. We all made as loud a call as we could. We did see some fisherboats, and beeing in great perplexitie and feare, we all rode on brest up the streame, purposeinge to trie of our horses (the worst cominge to the worst) would carrie us over. I askt my father if he could swim; he sayd when he was younge he could. Sayd I, We will keepe up the tyde, with the helpe of our horses, and by swimmyng, we may either gett over, or else some of the boates may take us in. At last the ferriemen sett out and came to us, tellinge us

we were in noe dainger; but by such tyme as we and our horses were on board, a ship might have rode betweene us and the shoare behind us, and all was covered with water where wee stood longe before we gott to Beaumaris. There wee lay that night, and the next morning wee rode to Holliehead, where wee stayd expecting a wind, and the Welch parson putt himselfe to the trouble to prepare an English sermon against Sunday, but the wind beinge faire on Sunday morninge we went on board, and left our host, black Hugh, and the parson, to eate what was prepared for dinner.

NEMO.

QUERIES.

THOMAS FULLER IN WALES.—In a reply under the heading "The Merionethshire Hills" (June 26) "E.B." says, "I believe Fuller never saw the hills at all." How, then, did the worthy old author of the *Worthies* get at his novel description of Dolgelley which has often been quoted in trips and tours, and has, I believe, appeared in *Bye-gones*? ARAN.

[See *Bye-gones*, First Series, 1871-3, p.p. 95, 187, 245, 252.—ED.]

SIDNEY BREESE.—Information wanted respecting Sidney Breese, said to have been born in Shrewsbury, and of his father Sidney Breese, said to have been a Shropshire merchant or manufacturer, and son of a Welsh rector. The period would be the latter part of the 17th century, and the first quarter of the 18th. The younger Sidney emigrated to New York, and married there in 1733. JOS. L. CHESTER.

Linden Villas, 124, Blue Anchor Road, Bermondsey, S.E.
[Replies may be sent direct to Col. Chester, or, if not of undue length, to the Editor.]

TEETOTAL REFRESHMENTHOUSES.—In the present age when Lords open houses for the sale of Teetotal beverages, and Church dignitaries preside at Teetotal gatherings, it will not be amiss to discuss the "bye-gones" of Teetotalism. When did the Teetotal movement first take its rise in the Oswestry district? I have before me, printed at a highly-respectable local office, "A Hymn to be sung by the Teetotalers at their ensuing meeting, to be held on the 1st of January, 1838." Were there earlier meetings than this, which, I take it, was to be held in the town of Oswestry. I have been told that the first meeting was a very stormy one. Do any of your readers remember it? In those days, I am told, many parties who now honourably and steadfastly stand up for Temperance were the strong opponents of Teetotalism. The following verse may be taken as a sample of the "Hymn":—

Oh! ye highly gifted Ranter,
Ye who take high heav'n by storm,
Bray with zeal, ye sons of thunder!
Who can better sound th' alarm!
If you push your standards foremost,
Then the wicked foe must yield;
For each Ranter's skull must form a
Most impenetrable shield.

All honour to the Ranter if they were thus the
leaders of the crusade against drunkenness. TELL.

REPLIES.

CASTLEREAGH (July 3, 1878).—IDLOES speculates on the pronunciation of this name. If Lord Byron is an authority we have the matter decided in the celebrated epitaph:—

Posterity will ne'er survey
A nobler grave than this:
Here lie the bones of Castlereagh:

Etc. etc., for which see the Poetical works of this noble
and amiable author. N.W.S.

DICK SPOT (Mar. 27, 1878).—Mr. Cathrall, on page 233 of his *History of Oswestry*, quoting Mr. Hulbert for the fact that Spot was buried in Oswestry, assumes that Mr. H. was hoaxed by an "eccentric churchwarden." The pamphlet summarized by AP GWYNEDD corroborates the statement in *Bye-gones*, Dec. 20, 1876; and that statement in giving the name of the churchwarden and locality of the grave, proves how misplaced Mr. Cathrall's dreary wit on the subject was, and how wrong he was in this, one of the few pieces of "original" information his volume contains. OSWALD.

BARDIC SEAT OF GENIUS (Feb. 6, 1878).—The writer in the *Cornhill* for Dec. 1877, in describing Cader Idris as the "Bardic Seat of Genius," perhaps referred to the legend of the stone on the Welsh mountain whereon the unlucky wight who slept would awake a poet or a madman! Mrs. Hemans, in her lines entitled "The Rock of Cader Idris," places this dangerous stone on Cader, although most Welsh Guides point to one on Snowdon as being the genuine article. TAFY.

OLD FOLKS (Mar. 6, 1878).—Extracted from the "General Evening Post," of September 17, 1793:—On Friday sennight died, at Fairfield Head, near Longner, in Shropshire, William Billings, soldier, at the great age of 114—and what is further worthy of remark, this veteran travelled through this extensive stretch of time, without ever experiencing a fit of sickness, and at last expired without a qualm or groan. General Cadogan, who died a few years since, was one of the last of Queen Anne's officers that survived the great Marlborough; and Billings, the last private in England, that served under that great commander. Billings's birth and death were equally extraordinary, he was born under a hedge in the year 1679, not a hundred yards from the cottage where he died. LANDWOR.

There is a monument in Llanwyddyn Churchyard "in memory of Lewis Evans, late of Llechwedd Du, who departed this life March 22, 1784, aged 113. Also of Catherine, wife of the said Lewis Evans, who died April 20, 1766, in the 96 year of her age." I have been told that Lewis Evans was able to crack nuts with his teeth at the age of a hundred! J.T.

"Over two pews belonging to the family of Decker Hill," says Mr. Hulbert, writing of Shifnal in 1837, "and near the baptismal font, is a small tablet of wood," recording that:—

William Wakley was baptised at Idsall, otherwise Shifnal, May the 1st, 1590, and was buried at Adbaston, November 23th, 1714; his age was 124 years and upwards. He lived in the reigns of eight Kings and Queens. D.P.

August 7th, 1776. Mary, the wife of Joseph Yates, of Lizard Common, within this parish, was buried, aged 127 years. She walked to London just after the fire in 1666; was hearty and strong at 120 years; and married a third husband at ninety-two. Mr. Hulbert's record being not quite accurate, the above varies in some particulars from his book. Will some of your readers say what "D.P." stands for at the end of the first record? F.R.

PRISONERS OF WAR IN OSWESTRY (Mar. 20, 1878).—"An Old Inhabitant" of Oswestry, now no more, writing in *Bye-gones*, Sep. 16, 1874, said—

I remember the French Prisoners in Oswestry. It used to be said that so anxious was Napoleon to get back General Phillipon, who was an engineer, that he offered any number of English prisoners in exchange for him. The General broke his parole, but how he escaped no one ever knew in Oswestry. The belief was that a miller, who for a short time occupied Wern Mill, I believe, and drove a very fast horse to the markets—smuggled

him away either in a sack with a load of flour, or behind the fleet horse. At any rate one day both general and miller were missing, and they were neither of them ever heard of afterwards.

In this closing supposition your correspondent was in error, as the following paragraph from the *Gents' Mag*: for Aug. 1812, will shew:—

Generals Philipon and Garnier (French prisoners confined at Oswestry), have lately effected their escape to France. The following persons, who were concerned in aiding them, have been apprehended, and convicted at Lewes:—Hughes, the landlord of the Red Lion at Rye, and postmaster of that town; Robinson, a miller, the person who accompanied the French generals from Oswestry, and went with them in the boat to the French shore; and Hutter and Turner, two smugglers, who carried them over.

The Shrewsbury papers of July or August, 1812, would probably give fuller particulars of the escape, and a reference to a file of either would be interesting. JARCO.

SCARCITY OF GRAIN IN 1795 (Nov. 17, 1875). There were several references to the scarcity of 1795 in *Bye-gones* a couple of years ago; and the means resorted to in order to supply starving families. What was done at Oswestry was not particularly enumerated, but I have recently copied the following notice which I presume was made public at the time:—

OSWESTRY, 20 July, 1795.

This is to give Notice.

That no Persons will have Corn sold to them on *Wednesdays* at the *Town-Hall*, unless they reside in the Town or some of the Parishes united therewith for the support of their Poor; and unless they appear there at Ten o'Clock that morning, with written certificates from the Clergyman of their Parish, or some respectable Farmer, of their being unable to purchase grain at the present great Price. Tickets for Corn will then be given to them.

Later on in the year, riots were threatened in Oswestry, as already stated in *Bye-gones*, and measures had to be taken as late as Christmas, 1795, to supply corn at a reasonable price to the poor. V.

STRAY NOTES.

CURIOUS BOTANICAL DISCOVERY UPON THE CADER IDRIS MOUNTAIN RANGE.—Mr. Murray, the head gardener at Peniarth, and the under gardener, on Saturday, 20th of July, found a plant of the tropical fern, *Platycium Alcorni*, growing upon this range of mountains. Botanists will hardly credit this, but, some years since, persons from the gardens of Penrhyn Castle discovered the same fern, at Llyn Idwal, and we understand that it was also found upon the estate of a nobleman in the North of England. The plant recently discovered is a young one, and has been brought down to Peniarth in good condition.

THE SCHOOLMASTER VERY MUCH ABROAD.—The *Salopian Journal* of Oct. 20, 1802, stated that a painter in Shrewsbury had recently received an order in the following terms:—"You are to draw the Shrawsbury coach with 6 men on the roof a two on the box—and chaise with 2 horses after the coach—also my name—spirits, porter, and ale—also I intend entertain a man on a horse—also my bussness wch as follow—that is farring—please to draw the flains and lanchetts, and that I shall nick and crop—and water for horses—I beg you'd do it as you think proper yourself—and do it as I mentioned above."

FLIGHT OF CHARLES II.—In reporting the recent visit of the Shropshire Archaeological Society to Boscobel, the *Bridgnorth Journal* says:—"In an old edition of a history of Boscobel, published by Mrs. Anne Wyndham, it is

stated that his majesty "put on a noggin coarse shirt, which was borrowed of Edward Martin, who lived in the house, and Richard Penderels green suit and leather doublet." In this disguise, after his hair had been cut, he secretly left the house, and was concealed by Richard Pendrel in the Spring Coppice. With regard to the disguise of the King, a curious pamphlet, dated 1661, was shown to the members of the Society by Mr. Hubert Smith; on the margin of one of its pages, a note in old writing evidently refers to the fate of this disguise, which had no doubt been carefully preserved by the loyal Penderels as having been worn by his majesty:—"W. Jones had Rv. pendrels green suit: hat (ye millar); martins shirt (White Ladyes)." Who this W. Jones was, who became possessed of such interesting souvenirs of his majesty's escape, does not appear. It would probably be after Richard Pendrel's death, which occurred in 1671, when he was buried in St. Giles'-in-Fields, London.

THE WELSH AND THEIR LANGUAGE.—The following appeared in some of the newspapers of May, 1868:—"The Welsh, says Mr. H. M. Bompes, assistant commissioner in the recent School Inquiry, are wanting in enterprize, and not willing to expend or risk money for future advantages, but they have a great love of knowledge; even among the common miners there are many well acquainted with the highest parts of mathematics, and it is quite usual for servants and labourers to compose essays and poems for the various Eisteddfods. Accordingly, while parents are unwilling to spend money on the education of their children with a view to future results, these children when grown up will pinch themselves to save enough to enable them to go to school for a year when they are between eighteen or twenty and thirty. In many schools, especially in South Wales, there is a considerable number of young men, who have worked as miners or farmers and saved enough to enable them to live for a year in the cheapest way and attend school. At the end of the time they either return to their work and occupy in it a rather superior position to that which they held before, or go to some college and enter the Dissenting ministry. Not unfrequently they go to schools on the borders of England, as at Shrewsbury or Kington. They work in classes with boys of twelve or thirteen without hesitation, and apparently with no disadvantage to either. The fact that throughout Wales it is usual for the Sunday schools to be attended by grown-up persons as well as children seems to prevent any feeling of pride in the matter, and to take away also the feeling that childhood is the special time for education. The use of the Welsh language in the country districts is another circumstance of difference between the state of education in England and in Wales; but English is the language taught now in all schools, and it is beginning in some parts to be considered unfashionable for girls to know Welsh. Scholars from country districts where Welsh is the language usually spoken by their parents are often unable to understand what the master says for a considerable time after they come to school; and even after they know English sufficiently to understand him such pupils often think in Welsh, and have to translate into Welsh the lessons they receive before they fully comprehend them, and this makes them seem dull and slow. Many children who learn English forget it as they grow up, but where they have learnt it when young, it is striking to notice that though they know it very imperfectly they speak with such a good accent and so grammatically, that their deficiency very often is not perceived at first. So easily do young children catch accents and modes of speaking. Welsh dies out in the presence of railways and an influx of English and Irish working men.

CROWNER'S QUEST IN 1795.—The *Salopian Journal* of May 17, 1795, says, that at an inquest held at Hales-Owen, Shropshire, on the bodies of two Canal Cutters, who were supposed to have been drowned whilst drunk, "the jury were so deeply affected by the event, that they found it necessary to take seventy quarts of ale and porter before they separated."

STRANGE ACCIDENT IN SHREWSBURY.—At the Shrewsbury Spring Assizes of 1813 a very singular accident occurred, which is thus recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine*:—"Died, March 21, at Shrewsbury Infirmary, aged 26, J. Mansell. He had climbed to an elevated situation to hear a trial on the 20th inst. at the Assizes, when his feet slipped, and he impaled himself upon the javelin of one of the Sheriff's officers who stood underneath. The weapon was with great difficulty extracted at the Infirmary, but not till two hours after the accident; and he lingered in agony till the following evening." The Shrewsbury papers of the period state that the trial that was going on was of a man named Preston for murdering Mr. Bruce. Mansell had been requested to move from the place where he had climbed, and was in the act of doing so, when his foot slipped and he fell as described.

THE QUEEN IN WALES.—Her Majesty has more than once enjoyed Welsh scenery. Here is the impression the view gave Royalty, as published in "The Queen's Book," issued in 1867:—"About eleven we saw the mountainous coast of Carnarvonshire. The hills, which are in fact high mountains, are bold and finely shaped, and, Albert said, reminded him much of Ischia, with the beautiful deep blue sea and bright sky. As we entered (the Menai Straits), the view of the fine mountains with their rich verdure—Snowdon rising splendidly in the midst—and of the fields and woods below, was really glorious. To the left, the country is extremely flat. Then Carnarvon came in sight, with the grand old castle so finely situated. We stopped for a few moments off here, but did not land. The mountains disappeared for a while, and then reappeared more beautiful than ever. We passed close to Plas Newydd, where we had spent six weeks fifteen years ago. I felt as if I remembered it all very well; but admired the scenery even more than I had expected from my previous recollection. We passed the famous Swilly Rocks, and saw the works they are making for the tube for the railroad, and then went under the Menai Bridge, and stopped immediately on the other side."

THE EARL OF BRADFORD AND THE ROYAL OAK.

That Charles the Second was "up a tree" in more senses than one after the battle of Worcester, there is no manner of doubt; but whether the particular tree into which he climbed in Shropshire still exists is a matter that was, until recently, all but settled in the negative. The discussion was revived last year by an expert of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, whose utterances we published at the time, and whose opinion has again been freely quoted during the past month in consequence of the visit of the Shropshire Archaeological Society to Boscobel. At that meeting it was stated by Mr. DeBunsen that he had received a letter from the Earl of Bradford, in which his lordship stoutly maintained—from family tradition, and the general aspect of the tree itself—that the Royal Oak was still a living, growing tree, and that the prevalent idea entertained that the oak shown to latter-day visitors was a seedling from the original one, was "ludicrous and absurd." Mr. DeBunsen told the Shropshire savans that he was about to incorporate Lord Bradford's remarks in a

pamphlet he had in the press on Boscobel and its surroundings; and this promise he has performed by the publication of a handsome little book now before us entitled "Boscobel: An Account of the Royal Oak; Boscobel House; and the Whiteladies." In passing we may say that the book is very nicely printed by Mr. Lowe of Shifnal, and published by Simpkin and Marshall of London.

As we have so recently gone into the question of the identity of the existing tree with the one that formed a refuge for royalty in 1651, it is not our purpose again to go over the old ground, but as the arguments, as it appears to us, are all one way, and that adverse to the claims of the existing tree, it is only just to the other side of the question that we should give, in extenso, the belief of the principal champion of the tree, the Lord Lieutenant of the County in which it is situated. His Lordship says:—

The account I have been accustomed to hear all my early life, from my father, about the Boscobel oak is as follows:—After the King had been for some days confined to the house at Boscobel, they could not dissuade him from going out to get fresh air, or even from going sometimes further from the house than was prudent. On one occasion, when he was out with one or two of the Penderils, sounds were heard of horses' feet not very far off. There was not much time for consideration, but his attendants thought he might not be able to get back to his hiding-place in the house quietly, or perhaps thought that even if he did, he might be discovered there, and recommended him to go into a thick part of the wood (it was early in September, and the trees and underwood still in full leaf), where they helped him up into an oak tree (not a decayed, but a growing oak tree) and implored him on no account to come down from the tree until they should return to him and tell him all was safe: they then went as if to their work or ordinary occupation: the troopers of the Parliament fell in with them, made all sorts of enquiries about the house, and its inmates and its neighbourhood, and ultimately rode on without discovering how near they were to the King. The Penderils returned in due time and conducted the King back to the house.

The tree was from that time well-known to them, and doubtless to the owner, Mr. Giffard, and other loyal friends in the immediate neighbourhood; and after the restoration, which was only nine years afterwards, probably numbers of people visited the tree, although at that time in a thick coppice, with only woodman's paths, or very bad cut roads, in the neighbourhood. The coppice was subsequently cleared, I apprehend in the time of the Fitzherberts, who inherited from the Giffards, but the tree into which the King climbed was left standing, and regarded with pride and affection. It has been known from father to son by succeeding generations from that time to this. As to its being a substitute of any sort, least of all an acorn from the original tree, I discard the idea as ludicrous and absurd. I have known the tree myself for half a century; it looks now very much as it did then. And, nearly as long ago as that, I remember my father speaking of the absurdity of the stories then current as to the owl flying out of the decayed tree, the present tree being an acorn from the old one, and such like. He used to say that he had heard his father and, I think, his grandfather, speak in the same sense; and the recollection of the tree by his grandfather, my great-grandfather, would easily carry him back as far as 1740, which would be less than ninety years after the King sat in the tree.

I may mention with respect to oak trees and oak wood in this neighbourhood, that there are trees still alive in this park, estimated to be 1,100 or 1,200 years old; there are others reckoned to be 600, 500, and 400 years old. Sometimes a smaller tree is known to be considerably older than a larger one, and I should myself estimate the tree at Boscobel to be 400 or 450 years old; but it would have been equally capable of affording a hiding-place for a man, in the middle of a thick wood, whether it were then some 220 years old, as I estimate it, or whether it were 100 years younger or older.

I further remember my father speaking of hearing from those who went before him, that some of the labouring men on the estate had pointed out the tree from father to son, as the tree which the hander-down of the tradition himself remembered as the Royal oak. It is mentioned in some of the histories and guide books, that great quantities of branches and pieces of the Royal oak had been from time to time broken off and carried

away by visitors. Now it so happens that the appearance of the tree at present looks exactly as if a great many of the lower branches had been broken or cut off, and no doubt they were; but it must be remembered that visitors were comparatively few, before the days of railways, excursion trains, and cheap guide books; and that since these things were invented, and indeed before, the tree has been protected by a wall, and later by a high railing.

I believe the stories about the old hollow oak, the owl, the meals partaken of in the tree, the pillow on which the King laid his head, his companion in the tree, &c., &c., are all the inventions of the romancers, and though some of the stories are too old to have originated in railway bookstalls, they are not too old to have originated with the bookstalls of Paternoster Row, or to have been compiled by citizens of London, who had never been to Boscobel or away from the sounds of Bow Bells, to supply the demand for *authentic* (?) accounts of the adventures of the restored Monarch.

The Earl's remarks have taken up so much space that we cannot comment so fully on them as we could have wished. We must, however, remind his lordship that it was the King himself who gave the world the statement that he spent a day in the oak with Col. Carless, and that they took with them into the tree bread, cheese, and beer. And that it was a granddaughter of one of the Pendrels who related to Dr. Stukeley the incident of the owl, at Boscobel itself, when he visited the house in 1713. So it is scarcely accurate to put these down to the credit of cockneys who lived all their lives within the sound of Bow Bells. The immediate family tradition of the Pendrels is worthy of some credit, though, no doubt, the descendants of that family, finding the incident in their history a paying one, would not make the story less with age. The King's own account, too, although given nearly thirty years after the occurrence, when the royal brains were doubtless somewhat muddled, is not entirely to be ignored; and there is other testimony, published soon after the event, that in some degree corroborates the narrative of the King; else, were we to put implicit faith in the family tradition of the house of Newport, we should be justified in altering the heading of the present notice to "The Earl of Bradford and the Royal Hoax!"

There is one remark of Lord Bradford's concerning the tree that, perhaps, calls for notice. His lordship says "the appearance of the tree at present looks exactly as if a great many of the lower branches had been broken or cut off," and uses this as one of his arguments to prove the identity of the tree; but as Mr. De Bunsen shews, by a letter from Mr. Dale, who was curate of Donington early in this century, a tempest about that time carried away more than a waggon load and a-half of branches; so much that it was the opinion at the time that the tree could not possibly recover.

Any of our readers who may be beguiled by his lordship's pleading, into the belief that the existing tree ever concealed the royal person of King Charles, or even a bird as small as a wren, in the seventeenth century, will do well to read Mr. De Bunsen's pamphlet, and we submit they will be fully convinced to the contrary. As we have said before, we have entered into this question so recently that we do not propose to repeat the facts and inferences of the case. Perhaps if the story of the escape from Worcester were reduced to plain prose, we should have a much less interesting chapter to tell of one of our Shropshire romances. It may be we should find that the Pendrels were faithful boors, "who would have been just as loyal to Cromwell at the bidding of their chief, Peter Giffard"; that the King was not called upon in any emergency to go into a tree at all; and that if he did occupy one of the priests' hiding holes in Boscobel House he only did so to pass away time which must have hung heavily on the hands of one so volatile as Charles the Second.

JULY 31, 1878.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.—In the *Oswestry Advertiser* of July 10, Mr. Salisbury has fallen into a slight error in a name. "Baker" author of a work on angling should be "Barker." In a "Catalogue of English Writers on Angling," published by J. Russell Smith, 36, Soho Square, in 1856, is the following:—"Barker (Thomas of Bracemale, Salop), Art of Angling, wherein are discovered many rare secrets very necessary to be known by all that delight in that recreation, 12mo. Lond., 1651, reprinted by Burn, Lond. 1820." A second edition was published in 1657, with considerable additions, &c. This edition which was also reprinted by Burn in 1820, was entitled "Barker's delight, or the Art of Angling." W.H.

NOTES.

CAERLLEON IN MONMOUTHSHIRE.—The restless spirit of antiquarian research has led some of the ablest men of our day to devote much attention to the ancient seats of learning upon the border lands of England and Wales. An old writer describes Caerlleon in Monmouthshire as "The 'Isca Silurum' of the Romans, and their chief station in the country of the Silures, over a wooden bridge, built on the same plan as Chepstow. This city was formerly a metropolitan see, but David, the national saint of Wales, thinking the noisy intercourse of a populous city, like Caerlleon, ill adapted for contemplation, or the solitary cast of his mind, removed it to Menevia, which from that period has been called Ty Dewi by the Welsh, and Saint David by the English.

"According to Le Neve, Dubritius, Archbishop of Caerlleon, is called by this title, as Archbishop of Wales, at the first establishment of the Christian religion in the British islands. Godwin fixes no time of his coming in, but only says, that he, waxing old, resigned his see to David, a disciple of his; that he died, and was buried in the Isle of Bardsee, Nov. 14, 522.

"David removed the see, as before stated, from Caerlleon to Menevia; and, by the time Godwin allows him to sit, viz. sixty-five years, and to die in 642, we may suppose he came in in 577. It is said he lived to a great age, viz. 146 years; and dying in 642, as is aforesaid, was buried in the cathedral which himself had caused to be built." These dates are very questionable, and do not fit each other at all.

David, the national saint of Wales, caused this removal to be made, it is said with the consent of his reputed nephew King Arthur, who according to some accounts "esteemed the City of Caerlleon as the principal place in these parts of his dominions." It is curious to think that so great a king should allow the archiepiscopal authority to be transferred from "the Isca Augusta, or Isca Colonia of the Romans, the principal garrison, head quarters, or main station of the second Augustan legion" to so mean a place as St. David's in the extreme point of South Wales.

Mr. Cox describes the ancient Caerlleon to be "an oblong square, three sides straight, the fourth curved; the south angle is near the end of the Round Table field, where the walls are nearly twelve feet thick; the south-west side passes the amphitheatre parallel to the Usk; the walls are again to be traced by the Broadway along the Benhouse field; the west angle runs alongside the Malpas road; on this flank a gateway leads to Goldcroft common; the north angle forms part of a stable in the New Inn yard, is again visible in the Castle yard, and turns the east angle near a rail-road by the Castle ditch; hence the line curves again, touches on the foss of the Castle, passes through gardens, &c., and is lost in a lane near the quay till it again becomes discernible near the south angle. The cir-

cumference of the walls, in which there appear to have been four gates, one in the centre of each flank, was about 1,800 feet."

Another writer describes it as the "station of the Pretor, and its splendid palaces, its stately edifices and gilded roofs, might, according to Geraldus, have vied with those of Rome itself; its baths, its aqueducts, its stoves, and proofs of ancient grandeur, were even in his time amply displayed in their ruins; numerous are the coins that have been here collected and the riches this spot has afforded to the cabinets of the curious."

It was celebrated, too, as the death place of Aaron and Julius, two of its most noted citizens, who are to be numbered as among the very earliest martyrs for the Christian faith, and thus we have in its old history all those proud marks of fame, which give it an interest to statesmen, soldiers, and ecclesiastics. Probably David had some high motive in taking the step he did; at all events his titular fame has been perpetuated through it, and the poor mean city of Menevia gained a great distinction for itself in consequence.

Warrington says of the Saint himself—"After being seated in the see of St. David sixty-five years, and having built twelve monasteries; after having been exemplary in the piety of those days, this holy person died, at a most advanced period of human life; having attained, as it is said, to the age of one hundred and forty-six years. He was buried in the Cathedral Church of St. David, and many years after canonized by Pope Calistus the Second."

"Pope Calistus, by whom David was canonized, had, it seems, raised this place to a rank second only to the pontifical city itself, in the meritorious efficacy of the pilgrimages made to it; having declared that two visits to St. David's were equal to one to Rome;—this occasioned a proverbial rhyme in Welsh, which has been thus translated into Latin.

"Roma semel quantum, bis dat Menevia tantum."

William the Conqueror honoured St. David's with a visit in 1079; King Henry the Second in 1171; and Edward the First accompanied by Eleanor his queen in 1284. The multitude of inferior pilgrims who vended their painful steps to this far distant shrine cannot be numbered, and we may suppose that their rich and willing offerings were religiously used by Bishop Peter in building the present cathedral church of St. Andrew and St. David to the honour of God, and in memory of the great prelate who had dignified the see with his person and services. Meanwhile Caerlleon has been passing into the shade, but so long as tradition can carry down its glorious history to generations to come, it will always command a place in the affections of the people, and be honoured for what it once was in the history of the Church. GLADWIN.

QUERIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (July 17, 1878).—*Mrs. Barrett.* In a paper on "Shropshire Patriotism in 1798" published in the first volume of the "Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society," in a list of Oswestry subscribers is given "Mrs. Barrett, £50." Only one sum equal in amount was contributed in the town. In the *Salopian Journal*, Apr. 6, 1803, the following appears under the deaths:—"Friday the 25th ult. at her lodgings in Bath, aged 73, Mrs. Barratt, a lady of a very amiable and benevolent disposition; generous to her tenants, and charitable to the poor. Her remains arrived at the Talbot in this town [Shrewsbury] on Saturday last, and on the following day proceeded to Oswestry for interment." Who was Mrs. Barratt, and who were her tenants?

OSWALD.

"WE ARE SEVEN."—The little maiden who puzzled the poet with her "figures" almost as sorely as Lord Dundreary was tried with his arithmetic, was, I suppose, a Welsh girl; at least she hailed from Conway. Your readers will doubtless remember the "poem." How the inquisitive author asked:—

"Sisters and brothers, little Maid
How many may you be?"

"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.

"And where are they? I pray you tell."
She answered, "Seven are we;
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea.

"Two of us in the church-yard lie,
My sister and my brother;
And, in the church-yard cottage, I
Dwell near them with my mother."

In the Isle of Wight "objects of interest" are made of the tombs of "The Young Cottager" and "The Dairyman's Daughter," and tourists are supposed to go and look at them. Wordsworth was a greater writer than Legh Richmond: but the poet's "Little Maid's" cottage and the grave of her brother and sister, are not made attractions, like the parson's model villagers. Is it that the maiden was merely a fancy of the brain, whereas the cottager was a notable fact? I presume, in the midst of the glorious "wonders of Wales" such peddling things as are accounted "attractions" in the Isle of Wight count for nothing. One would as soon expect to be shewn the tombstone of "The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain" when visiting Stonehenge, as the grave of Wordsworth's little maid's small relatives on the fringe of Snowdonia. J?R.

REPLIES.

MR. J. CRESSETT PELHAM (July 10, 1878).—"Salt" seems to have been an important item in Mr. Pelham's politics, but the salt question had lost its savour half a dozen years earlier than the date mentioned in the magazine SCROBBES BYRIG quotes as that on which Mr. Pelham entered Parliament. It is true he was returned, with Sir Rowland Hill (as a Tory) in 1831, in opposition to his old friend Mr. Lloyd of Aston, who supported him when he came forward as something very like a Radical in 1822. And it was in 1822—when Pelham and Childe fought for the seat vacated by the death of Sir John Kynaston Powell—that the duty on Salt pressed heavily on the poor. Mr. Childe did not go to the poll, but the fight lasted long enough to give birth to a variety of squibs, in some of which "Salt" figures. On another occasion I may perhaps go into the details of this election and give samples of the literature it called forth. For the present let the following verse, which bears on the incident mentioned by SCROBBES BYRIG suffice:—

Who would live on tea and toast,
Who not sighs for boild and roast,
Who would tamely yield the boast
Of Shropshire revelry!

Where's your beer if wanting Malt,
Where's your hams if wanting Salt,
If ye starve 'twill be your fault,
Then who will pity ye?

The nomination of 1822 seems to have been a lively affair, and here, again, "Salt" was prominent. We are told that—

Soon after Mr. Childe appeared, a net containing a large lump of Salt was hoisted upon a pole, as a memento of that gentleman having voted in Parliament against the repeal of the Salt Tax, &c. An inscription was appended, viz., "Remember Lot's Wife."

Mr. Childe had resigned his seat for Wenlock in order to contest the county. Pelham, supported by Lloyd of Aston, Mytton of Halston, Corbet, and other gentlemen, who went in for "Freedom of Election," was returned, and it must have been soon after he took his seat that he presented to an astonished House of Commons his basins of gruel—if ever he did present them! The duty on Salt from 1798 to 1805 was 10s. per bushel; it was then increased to 15s.; reduced to 2s. in 1823, and abolished early in 1825.

JARCO.

THOMAS FULLER IN WALES (July 24, 1878). The belief I expressed in my former note that Thos. Fuller had never been in Merionethshire is founded on the evidence of the old historian himself. If ARAN will refer to "the necessary Preface to the Reader" prefixed to the portion of the *Worthies* relating to the Principality of Wales he will find the following observation by the author "I never was in Wales, and all know how necessary '*Autopsia*' is to accurateness herein." He will further find the whole preface an apology for old Fuller's own want of knowledge and the imperfectness of his own information in regard to Wales.

E.B.

BALLOTING FOR THE MILITIA (July 17, 1878).—In Feb. 1770 there was a great riot at Chirk, in Denbighshire, to oppose the execution of the Militia Act in that county. Near three hundred countrymen, armed with clubs and pitchforks, assembled at the meeting of the justices, and drove away the constables who were about to deliver in their lists; and after insulting the gentlemen present, and breaking the windows of the house where they met, dispersed without any further damage.

NEMO.

AUGUST 7, 1878.

NOTES.

YOUNG DUTCH SAM AT LUDLOW.—In the days of our grandfathers the Noble Art of Bruising was a fashionable amusement. I have just been reading a long account of what is termed "a Scientific Mill" between Young Dutch Sam and Ned Neal, at Ludlow, on Tuesday, April 27, 1829. My record appears in *Pierce Egan's Book of Sports*, published in 1832. Ludlow seems to have been fixed upon as the scene of the encounter, for one reason because the innkeepers of the place subscribed £100 to be divided between the combatants. Sam and his friends put up at the Clive Arms, Bromfield, on the eve of the fight, so as to be quiet, and Neal at Mr. Cook's, the Angel Inn, Ludlow. We are told that "the milling coves" were numerous, and included Tom Spring, White-headed Bob, Holt, and others, but that, although there was such a galaxy of talent in the town, "Ludlow did not exhibit that animation that might have been expected," and, excepting the Angel and the Crown, "other houses obtained little, if any accession of company on account of the fight." To pass away the time on the afternoon before the fight, "most of the boxers took a view of Ludlow Castle," and the following is the account of the impressions made on the minds of some of them:—

White-headed Bob listened with the utmost attention to the eloquence of Harry Holt on the beauties of the scenery, and other circumstances connected with this delightful ruin. Bob was not exactly up to Milton, who had written his "Masque of Comus" in this castle; nor was he down to Butler, who had likewise penned his celebrated work of "Hudibras." But Bob had no doubt they were good ones, if Harry Holt knew anything about them, though he had never heard of them before in the P.R.

XXXX.

"Perhaps not," said Holt, "but nevertheless they both made good use of their mauleys, and their hits were publicly acknowledged to have been capital. But they are both floored now; and if your appellation and my name live half so long in the tablet of memory, nay, one hundredth part, we must consider ourselves great folks indeed." "That will do," said Bob, "recollect we have something more important in view than losing our time over these old stones: the sparring-matches will begin soon at the Angel, when I hope to pocket a little blunt."

The "sets-to" anticipated by the white-headed Bob duly came off, when he with Holt, Oliver, Pyefinch, and others performed amidst "lots of applause," and some profit. During the evening amateurs from Shrewsbury and other places arrived, and "gave the town a little more life." The fight itself took place "in Ludford Park (on a hill, commanding a delightful prospect), belonging to E. L. Charlton, Esq., a well-known sporting gentleman, and distinguished for his breed of race-horses." The fight I will not describe. In the 78th, and last, round, "the Young One, with the utmost dexterity, gave Ned a rum one on his conk," which seems to have settled the business, but to make sure he followed it with "planting a severe hit on Ned's throat," which seems nearly to have settled him, for he was carried away insensible, and "attended by Dr. Wakefield, to the Angel Inn, Ludlow." The fight lasted one hour and forty-one minutes. In conclusion, the narrator speaks feelingly of the "humane attentions" of "Spring, Holt, Brown of Bridgnorth, the gallant Naval Captain and the Swell Dragsman," at the bed-side of the fallen hero.

R.K.T.

QUERIES.

WELSH NAMES OF THE SALMON.—The following are the names, which in some parts of Wales, are applied to the salmon in its various stages of growth: 1. Silod y gro. 2. Silod brithion. Brith y gro: *pl.* brithroaid. 3. Brithyll y môr, Brithyll brych. 4. Gwyniad y gog. 5. Gwyniad haf. 6. Gaflaw. 7. Adfwlch. 8. Maran. 9. Camog. 10. Chwiwell. 11. Gleisiad. 12. Penllwyd. 13. Eog. The last, Eog, is the general name of the fish, as well as of the fish in its last stage of development. Are there any other names known to readers of *Bye-gones*?

DEINIOL.

THE QUAKERS IN WALES.—Can any of your readers inform me who was Katharine Evans—a Friend—who went out with a Sarah Cheevers to the Island of Malta? A brief history of the voyage was published in London in 1715. She suffered much persecution in Malta, and after her return from that imprisonment, Sewel, in his *History of the People Called Quakers* tells us (page 618) that imprisonment fell to her share "once at Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, in the year 1666, for refusing to swear." It would also interest many of your readers if we could be supplied with a list of the Quaker burying grounds and meeting-houses and houses recorded for worship, once belonging to the "Friends" in Merionethshire. GYPT.

REPLIES.

HUGH THOMAS, HENDREF. (July 10, 1878). The mention of Col. Anwyl's name having called forth some remarks from GWYNIAID regarding Col. Vaughan's friend and second, if I remember rightly Col. Vaughan had another friend of the same name, viz., Captain Anwyl, of Brynadda, Dolgelly. Perhaps some of your readers can throw some light on GWYNIAID's query as to which Capt. Anwyl was Col. Vaughan's second, also regarding the duel.

STUDENT.

A MERIONETHSHIRE BARD (July 10, 1878).

The list of the woks of the above-mentioned bard given by Mr. HUGHES is not perfect, and as the editor says, "Any additional particulars from other sources will be acceptable." I send a more complete list of the publications of "Bardd y brenin":—

1. Musical and Poetical Relicks of the Welsh Bards.
2. The Bardic Museum.
3. Book of Lyrick Airs.
4. A Book of Minstrel Serenades.
5. Musical Miscellany.
6. Book of Musical Remains.
7. A Book of Maltese Melodies, &c.
8. A Selection of Original German Waltzes.
9. Musical Bouquet or Popular English Ballads.
10. Book of Musical Trifles for Beginners.
11. Book of Musical Curiosities.
12. The Musical Hive.
13. Popular Cheshire Melodies.
14. Hên Ganiadau Cymru (Cambro British Melodies)

There is a fine view of Harlech Castle on the title page of this last volume, engraved by Basire after Wells. The author lived to complete the first part only, the second was finished by John Parry (Bardd Alaw) with an interesting memoir of Jones, which has been reproduced nearly verbatim in Williams's *Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen*.
Brecon. F.S.A.

STRAY NOTES.

A MIGHTY MAN OF USK.—The papers of April, 1772, recorded the death of Mr. Philip Mason, at Usk, in Monmouthshire. He measured round the wrist 11 inches; at his arm, near the shoulder, 21 inches; round the breast, 5 feet; body, 6 feet 1 inch; thigh, 3 feet 1 inch; calf of the leg, 2 feet 1 inch; and small ditto, 1 foot 7 inches. Notwithstanding this bulk he was very active.

A HEREFORDSHIRE HIGHWAYMAN in 1766.—In February, 1766, a boy was sent to Hereford Fair to sell a cow, which he did, for more money than his master ordered. The boy, going into a public-house, and bragging to a neighbour what a fair he had made; a highwayman being in the house, overheard him, followed him a mile out of town, and gave him a lift on horseback; but about two miles further told him he must give up the money he got for the cow; on this the boy slipped off the horse, and ran, the highwayman dismounting ran after him; and on being overtaken the boy pulled the money out of his pocket and strewed it about; and while the highwayman was picking it up, the boy seized the horse and rode home. Upon searching the saddle-bags, there were found twelve pounds in cash, and two pistols loaded. The horse was valued at fourteen pounds.

IN FOURTEEN PLACES AT ONE TIME.—An instance was given in the "Bye-gones" column of our paper in Feb. 1872, where a person standing astride a small stream called Shelbrook, at Overton, would be in sixteen places at the same time! The "Cheshire Sheaf" of Aug. 7, 1878, gives the following topographical curiosity of the same kind, from an old newspaper:—"There is a house called Hardingwood in the county of Chester, the inhabitants of which, whenever they go to the parish church—which is that of Church Lawton, in Cheshire, go out of the province of Canterbury into that of York; pass through two counties, Staffordshire and Cheshire; three parishes, Woolstanton, Audley, and Lawton; three constabularies, Tunstall, Chell, and Lawton; two hundreds, Pitchell and Nantwich; and two dioceses, Lichfield and Chester."

AUGUST 14, 1878.

THE CHESHIRE SHEAF.—Under this title a kindred column to *Bye-gones* appears every week in the "Chester Courant," the first collected part of which has just been issued in magazine form, and contains the matter that has appeared in the paper in May, June, and July; in all 162 paragraphs, relating chiefly to Cheshire. The "Sheaf" is under able editorship, and the field being a wide one we prognosticate for it a lengthened existence. When a volume is completed there is one suggestion we would venture to make, which is, that the paging of the book, rather than the numbers attached to the paragraphs, should be given as references.

NOTES.

A NATIONAL EDITION OF PENNANT.—As far back as January, 1873, "W.T.P." writing in a column entitled "Past Days," which appeared in the *Wrexham Guardian*, quoted Dr. Johnson's opinion that "Pennant has greater variety of enquiry than almost any man, and has told us more than perhaps one in ten thousand would have done in the time he took." But, added the learned doctor, Pennant "exhausts nothing, and no subject whatever has yet been exhausted." The writer (whom I take to be Mr. W. Trevor Parkins) then suggested that materials should be gathered for a new edition of the celebrated *Tour in Wales*, and invited contributions "for what should be the work of loving and tender hands." The "Past Days" column too soon became a thing of the past, and nothing came of the suggestion; but in 1875 BOOK-MAKER, referring in *Bye-gones* to the note in question, urged that some Welsh Society, or combination of Welshmen, should take in hand a new edition of Pennant's *Welsh Tours*, giving his own experience, in the compilation of some notes on North Wales, that after consulting every scrap of information he found in all sorts of works, he generally discovered that "Pennant was the common source from whence the various writers took their information." In your column for June 26, "E.B., Portmadoc," (whom I of course take to be Mr. Breese), says, "We have yet one worthy labour for a literary and travelled Welshman to perform: and that is a corrected and enlarged edition of the best topographical work we have ever had upon North Wales, viz. Pennant's *Tours*." Let me add that when this is done—and done it will no doubt be some day—the work should be profusely illustrated with copies of portraits of distinguished Welshmen, (now hanging in the galleries of our Welsh nobility and gentry); views, relics, curiosities, buildings, &c., &c. Let the text remain intact, but let the notes be as full and complete as possible. If some society took the matter up and placed the work in the hands of a good editor, who was not above taking advice, proof sheets might be submitted, for additions, to the better-known of our Welsh writers:—the work might then be issued in shilling, or half-crown parts, and, if needs be, might contain an appendix for the addition of any notes of value that were contributed after the several parts had been issued. It will readily be seen that such an edition could scarcely be undertaken by any single-handed publisher, as the expense would be too great, but eventually it would pay I have no doubt. I should like to have the opinion of some of your contributors on the subject. J.?.R.

QUERIES.

CANN OFFICE, NEAR WELSHPOOL.—Turning over the pages of Hutton's *Remarks upon North Wales*, 1803, the other day, I came, at page 13, upon a somewhat embarrassing incident which befel the author

near the above-named place, and which may perhaps be deemed worthy of being registered in *Bye-gones*. The author writes:—

In my second day's march from Mallwyd to Welch Pool, a man darted out of a house, as if watching for me, with a "How far are you going?" "To Canoffice," I reply. "So am I!" I halted to observe a mill which I thought curious; he attended me as close as my shirt. He appeared rather shabby, not very active, but very inquisitive, without a wish to appear so; had travelled, he said, been on board a ship, was a taylor, and was going to Llanvair to visit a son.

"You carry your coat upside down, you will lose the gold," said he. "There is none to lose." "If there is none in those pockets, there is in others!" We stopped at Canoffice and, as I could make but a poor reckoning, I treated him.

The weather being hot, we agreed to repose in the shade. "Are your buckles silver?" asked he. "Yes." We were reclined upon a bank, I facing him, unbuttoned, with my eyes closed, all in silence and abstracted from the world. Opening my eyes, I saw, with astonishment, a large open clasp-knife in his hand. "What do you do with that knife?" I asked with some emotion. "Cut bread and cheese." "Why, you have none to cut!"

We marched on. I treated him coolly; he saw my suspicion. I was under no fear while my eyes were open, and he not at my heels, for I could overcome two such, though no fighter. Determined to quit my companion, I outwalked him, which seemed to disappoint him.

Stopping at Llanvair to bait, he hunted me out, entered the same room where I sat alone, and drew his knife. "Pray why do you draw that knife?" "I always carry it to cut bread and cheese." "That must be a mistake, for you had none to cut either then or now, nor did you use it for any other purpose. Besides, if you come to this town to visit your son, there can be no need to enter a public-house!" He closed the knife, and was silent. I paid my shot, walked on to Welch Pool, and saw him no more. I have only stated facts that another may judge, but to this moment I am at a loss to guess whether my suspicions were just.

Appropos of this place, can any reason for the name *Cann Office* be given? There is a fine old house in the town of Bridgnorth—I think now a blacksmith's forge or shop—for centuries known as *Cann Hall*; and in Eyton's *Antiquities of Shropshire*, I remember to have years ago seen a note or two, which I unfortunately omitted to transcribe, referring to two Burgesses of Parliament for the town of Bridgnorth, each named *Cann*. These foot notes, if I remember right, were of the fifteenth century. Has this old mansion any "bye-gones" worth recording—and is it known to have been the residence of the local family of the name? What were the arms of these *Canns* of Bridgnorth? T. HUGHES.

Chester.

A WELSH MUSICAL CHILD.—The papers of June, 1803, state that, "a public breakfast was given on June 18th, at Vauxhall, for the benefit of Miss Randles, the celebrated musical child, a native of Denbighshire, under the patronage of the Prince of Wales, the Dowager Duchess of Rutland, and Lady Dunganon." Can any reader tell us something more of Miss Randles?

WREXHAMITE.

REPLIES.

MR. EVANS OF LLWYNYGROES (May 8, 1878).—The editor of the *Salopian Journal*, on Nov. 2, 1803, in what is technically termed a "leading paragraph," called attention to the Map of the County of Salop, for which Mr. Baugh of Llanymynech obtained the Medal of the Society of Arts in 1809. The editor says, "As a correct Map of the County of Salop is very much wanted, we learn with great satisfaction, that there is now an *Actual Survey* undertaken, and nearly completed, and proposed to be published by Subscription (*see the advertisement in this paper*) by that ingenious and scientific Artist,

Mr. R. BAUGH, of Llanymynech, who engraved and principally assisted in the survey of the elegant and correct Map of North Wales, published by the late JOHN EVANS, Esq. The Nobility and Gentry who wish to patronize an undertaking of such public utility, have now an opportunity of securing the best impressions of this work, by early sending their names to be inserted in the List of Subscribers." By the advertisement we learn that the work is to be completed by Christmas 1805, at a cost of Two guineas, to Subscribers. The following parties were announced as willing to receive names:—Messrs. Eddowes, Wood, and Sandford, Shrewsbury; Salter, Edwards, and Williams, Oswestry; Painter, Wrexham; Baugh, Ellesmere; Wright, Whitchurch; Houlstone and Son, Wellington; Scarrot, Shifnal; Gittton and Partridge, Bridgnorth; Fowler, Bewdley; Felton, and Griffiths, Ludlow; Griffiths, Bishops Castle; Weaver, Montgomery; Baugh, Berriew; L. Baugh, Can-office; Owen, Welshpool; &c. Most, if not all, of these were either printers or stationers.

TYPO.

THE DUKE D'ALEMBERG (Feb. 6, 1878).—This distinguished French Prisoner of War, mentioned at the above date as giving concerts in Oswestry (and on Jan. 16, as being suspected of providing funds to enable his brother captives to escape), arrived here, according to the *Genl's Mag.* of Jan. 1812, during that month. The paragraph announcing this runs as follows:—

The Duke D'Alembert and Gen. Bron have been conveyed to Oswestry and Welshpool, where they are to reside upon their parole. The Duke professes to consider the war in Spain at an end, but for the enterprising Guerrillas and the presence of the British army, of the latter, however, he says that it is at the option of Buonaparte, to annihilate the whole, by the sacrifice of 50,000 men in carrying the lines of Torres Vedras; which he acknowledges to be almost incredibly fortified. They admit the number of prisoners taken by Gen. Hill to have been greater than that stated by the French Government; and the Duke adds, that Girard's division was one of the finest for courage and discipline in the French army. Their surprise, they say, was unequalled at Gen. Hill's march, when rising from their pillows, and seeing the Highlanders in the streets of Arroyo Molina, rushing in with bayonets fixed, and carrying all before them, while the Spanish inhabitants cried "Vive l'Angleterre!"

JARCO.

BALLOTING FOR THE MILITIA (Aug 7, 1878.) In June, 1803, an "Original Militia Insurance Office" was opened at Ludlow, by W. Felton; in which a subscriber of 10s. 6d., if drawn for the Supplementary Militia, would be entitled to £5 5s. 0d., (and larger amounts in proportion) to assist in purchasing substitutes. During the same month Lords Lieutenants of Counties drew, at the Horse Guards, for presidency in the different regiments of Militia during the War. The following were the results as far as the scope of *Bye-gones* extends:—Salop 3, Denbigh 4, Cheshire 6, Flintshire 19, Montgomery 26, Merioneth 65, Anglesea 69. Berwick was drawn No. 1, and Stafford 2. The Bill for the Defence of the Country, passed at this time, enacted that the name of every man above 15 and under 60 years of age, should be collected and registered, distinguishing those who were engaged in any Volunteer Corps, or in the Yeomanry. Each person was to be required to state on what terms he would be willing to be armed and trained. So hedged about was every able-bodied man, that it became a joke, in Shropshire, that the only way to avoid being a soldier was to become a Volunteer! N.W.S.

DOLWYDDELAN OR DOLYDDELEN?

(Apr. 3, 1878.)

Carnarvon, 8 James I., 1610. Plaintiff, Sir John Wynn, Defendant, Sir John Wynn, Knight. Right and

Title to the frithes and manor or town of *Dolwethelan*. [The names of Robert Wynn, father of plaintiff, John Wynn ap Meredith, son to Meredith ap Ievan ap Robert, otherwise Meredith Wynn, and John Farnham, Morrice Wynn, and Ralph Sheldon, all farmers of the lands, are mentioned.]

Carnarvon, uncertain date, but reign of James I. Plaintiff, Sir John Wynne, Knight, Defendants, Sir Roger Mostyn, Knight, Wm. Williams and Dorothy his wife, John Wynne, of Conway, and Richard Wynne, of Windsor. Kings manor or town of *Dolwythelan*, parcel of the principality of Wales. Customs of Manor touching inheritance.

Carnarvon, 32 Elizabeth, 1589. Plaintiffs, Retherch ap Richard, John ap Llewelyn ap William ap Meredith, Defendants, John Wynne, Robert Wynne. Right and title to the township of *Dolwethelan*.

Carnarvon, 8 James I., 1609—10. Plaintiffs, Roderick, otherwise Rytherch ap Richard, Owen ap Thomas, and others, tenants of *Dolwethelan*, Defendants, Sir John Wynn, Knt., & John Wynn, gentleman. Execution of a decree made in the Court of Exchequer Chamber by Lord Burleigh and the Barons, for and on behalf of the then ancient tenants of the town of *Dolwethelan*.

Carnarvon, 8 James I., 1610. Plaintiff, Sir John Wynn, Knt., Defendants, John Wynn, of Conway, Richard Wynne, of Windsor, Sir Roger Mostyn, Knt., William Williams. Right and title to a parcel of the Royal manor or town of *Dolwethelan*.

(38th Report of Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, pages 274, 562, 570, 576, 773.) W.

CURRENT NOTES.

At the meeting of the Oswestry Local Board on Monday, a letter was read from Mr. STANLEY LEIGHTON, M.P., who proposes to edit the Corporation Records and to publish them in extenso in the Papers of the Shropshire Archæological Society, a society which is doing useful work, and which we may take this opportunity of commending to the support of our readers. Mr. LEIGHTON generously offers to bear the expense of copying the documents, and the Board agreed to allow them to be sent to London for the purpose. May we suggest that it would add very greatly to the interest—if not the value—of the work, if the portraits of the grantors were photographed. The Shropshire Archæological Society have, so far, enriched their pages with engravings; and we happen to know that some of our charters have portraits at the head of them that are fine works of art, which would make exceedingly valuable illustrations if photographed.

THE CORPORATION ARCHIVES.

THE MAYOR read the following letter:—

Sweeney Hall, 11th Aug., 1878.

My dear Sir,—If I could obtain the consent of the Mayor and Corporation of Oswestry, I should be glad to have the charters and muniments belonging to the town copied, and I would edit them for the Shropshire Archæological Society. I think it would be well to have documents of that sort printed in extenso. Should you and the rest of the Corporation accede to my proposal, and be willing to allow the charters to be sent up to London in order to be copied, I would pay for the whole of the cost.

You will see by the enclosed letter that Messrs. Stuart, Moore, and Kirk, to whom I should propose that they should be sent, are trustworthy persons. They have done a good deal of work of this kind for me before.

I think it would be quite as safe and much less expensive for the charters to be forwarded to London rather than that a man should come down here to do the work.

Hoping to hear from you soon, believe me, yours very faithfully,
STANLEY LEIGHTON.

To the Mayor of Oswestry.

The CLERK said that on a former occasion some of the documents had been lent for the purpose of copying, and it was not certain that all had been returned. He added that this was about the time that Mr. Croxon went out of, and Mr. Henry Davies came into, office, and there had been no list kept of what had been lent.

Mr. W. F. ROGERS thought the documents ought to be copied in the Corporation offices. If one of them were lost it could not be replaced. (Hear, hear).

Alderman WYNN THOMAS said that if it would be any advantage to the town to have these old documents published, and he thought it would be, it would be very ungracious of them to throw any extra expense upon Mr. Leighton. He proposed that Mr. Leighton's proposal be accepted with pleasure, and that the documents be lent to him for a period not exceeding three months.

Mr. R. HUGHES seconded the motion.

Alderman MINSHALL said that enough had been said to make them hesitate. He should be sorry to do anything to contravene what Mr. Leighton proposed. These records, however, could not be replaced, and he doubted the expediency of letting them go up to London. They might be lost in transit, or they might be lost by careless employés there. He should be very glad to have them copied, and he proposed that they reply that the documents might be copied at their offices.

Mr. R. LLOYD seconded Mr. Minshall's amendment.

Alderman OWEN remarked that the matter had been before the Council before, and the expense had alone prevented the work being done. He thought it would be very ungracious to meet the proposal in the way suggested.

Alderman MINSHALL said that if he thought there was anything ungracious in what he moved he would not have proposed it, but he did not think so. He thought Mr. Leighton's was a very kind offer, but there was a possibility of one of the documents being lost, and it was very doubtful whether they ought to allow them to go away.

Mr. PARRY JONES thought there could be no objection for a limited time. They often had deeds copied. The documents were of no intrinsic value, and all the charters had been repealed with the exception of the last, and that was not very important.

Mr. R. HUGHES thought the risk very slight.

On a division, ten voted for the motion, and five for the amendment, and the former was declared carried.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.—The fourth excursion for 1878 was held on Monday, August 12. The members and their friends met at Lydham Heath Station, where they were met by Mr. More and the Rev. A. S. Male, rector of More, and proceeded to Linley Hall, where they were most hospitably entertained at luncheon by Mr. and Mrs. More. Linley Hall, approached by a fine double avenue of oaks a mile long, was built in 1754 by the same architects and workmen who built Blenheim. The extensive park is extremely picturesque, with beautiful views of the surrounding hills, and several fine avenues, one of beeches, 2 miles in length. There are the remains of a Roman villa, which was visited, and the old archery practice ground of the Norman soldiers, called the Butts; and also the first larch planted in England. After thanking Mr. More for the kind reception, the party left Linley under the guidance of Mr. Male, and took their way to the Stiperstones, from which there is a very fine view of the Welsh and Stretton hills, and the Shropshire plain. The geological part of the party then went off to Shelve Hill, and in a quarry near the church found specimens of a species of *greptolite*, and of *Bellerophon*, and *dictyonema sociale* in the Llandeilo flags. In another

quarry, near Hope, a curiously contorted strata was noticed. The rest of the party kept along the top of the Stiperstones, and they passed by the Snailbeach on the way to Minister Station, where they all met in time for the 7-10 train for Shrewsbury. The day was fine, and clear and very favourable for good views. There were present—Mr. J. R. Barnes, Miss Forster, the Revs. J. E. Hill, D. P. Lewis, and O. M. Feilden, Messrs. La Touche, Hill, Oswald, Harrison, &c. Among the plants found may be mentioned *Campanula Patula*, *Artemisia Absinthium*, and *Vaccinium Vitis Idæa*, the red whortleberry or cowberry, growing abundantly with the bilberry and crowberry (*Empetrum Nigrum*), on the Stiperstones.

DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH HUMPHREYS.—Mr Joseph Humphreys, of Dogpole Court, Shrewsbury, died on Monday, Aug. 5. For some years past (says the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*) Mr Humphreys has suffered from a painful disease which, during the last twelve months, kept him almost entirely to his house, and to this illness he succumbed on Monday, at the age of 70. Mr Humphreys was a skilled and enthusiastic antiquary, and his office in St. Alkmund-square was a perfect storehouse of curious and rare old books, pictures, engraved blocks, and miscellaneous collections of relics of antiquity. For the most part, Mr Humphreys's investigations into the past and the articles he collected were connected with his native town and county, and his labours extended over nearly the whole of his lifetime. The possession of a comfortable income and ample leisure enabled him fully to gratify his taste for making such a collection, and this, combined with his extensive knowledge, has resulted in a most varied, as well as valuable assortment of articles of *virtu*. Mr. Humphreys's knowledge of the past history of the town was greater than that of most men, and his most retentive memory enabled him to store up an extraordinary fund of the most varied information, much of which must now be lost. By some, the deceased gentleman was considered rather eccentric in his manner, and those who, for the first time, visited him in his quaint and strangely arranged old office in St. Alkmund's Square, might certainly be led to such a conclusion, but he was respected the more he was known, and his demise will be a source of very sincere regret to many an old friend in the locality. The funeral took place on Thursday at the general cemetery.

LLANSILIN CHARITIES.

CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES.

Sir W. Williams's Charity.—Sir William Williams, of Llanyrd, Bart., by his will left the interest of £200 to be distributed amongst the poor of this parish for ever. The estates of this family came into the possession of the house of Wynnstay, it is presumed, on the union of the two by marriage. At all events, a sum of £10 is annually paid before Christmas by the agent of Sir W. W. Wynn to the churchwardens of this parish, supposed to be the interest of the said legacy, now become a charge upon the estate. This is added to other sums.

Ann Myddleton's Charity.—Ann Myddleton, of Plasnewydd, left, by will, the interest of £42 towards apprenticing a poor child once in two years. According to the Parliamentary Returns, a sum of £23, as arrears of the interest unappropriated, was also vested with this in the hands of the vicar and churchwardens. These two sums form part of a sum of £140 put out by the parish, at interest, upon the security of a turnpike-road. This money, and the distribution of the proceeds thereof, will be mentioned hereafter.

Richard Williams and John Foulkes's Charities.—These two persons left each a sum of £20 to the poor of the parish, the interest thereof to be yearly distributed amongst them. They form part of the money invested, as above, upon the Llansilin district of roads.

Ann Morris's Charity.—Ann Morris, late of Gwern y Duon, left, by her will, the interest of £5 to the poor of the parish for ever.

Thomas Lewis's Charity.—Thomas Lewis, of Gofla, left by will, the interest of £5 to the poor of the parish for ever.

Jane Hughes's Charity.—Jane Hughes, of Gofla, left, by will, the interest of £6 to be distributed amongst the poor of the parish for ever.

These seven sums amounting to £121, and one or two other legacies given by persons unknown, making in the whole the sum of £140, are invested upon the Llansilin district of turnpike-roads. Of this, £108 only are mentioned in a certain bond from the read trustees, dated in 1778. No explanation could be given by the Vicar of Llansilin, who is also the treasurer of the said trust. He pays yearly as such, a sum of £7, being at the rate of five per cent. upon the whole, to the churchwardens.

This is added to Sir W. Williams's charity and others about to be mentioned, and distributed altogether.

Sir W. Myddleton's Charity.—Sir William Myddleton, late of Chirk Castle, Bart., left by his will in 1717, the interest of £200 to be distributed amongst the poor of this parish for ever. This is now a charge upon an estate called Plas Newydd, situated within the parish, the property of Mr. Thomas Hughes, who purchased it in 1803. It was sold by order of the High Court of Chancery, subject to this annual payment. It is paid to the churchwardens about St. Thomas's Day, and distributed with the foregoing charities.

Edward ap Thomas's Charity.—This person left an annual sum of Twenty-six Shillings to this parish, and the same to Llanyblodwell.

It is here called "Mault-money," and is received by the churchwardens from Mr. Thomas Maurice, the owner of a farm called Tynycoed, and added to the foregoing sums, and distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sir W. Williams's Charity	10	0	0
Consolidated Charities secured upon the Llansilin roads	7	0	0
Sir W. Myddleton's charity	1	0	0
Ap Thomas's ditto	1	6	0
	19	6	0
Out of which the Schoolmaster receives ..	4	0	0
	15	6	0

The residue, to which is added the sacrament money, is distributed on St. Thomas's Day, by the Vicar and Churchwardens, to poor persons of the parish, such as are not able to keep a cow, and to the aged and infirm. A list of these persons is kept, and revised every year. The sum given to each family varies from 1s. to 5s., according to their size and circumstances. The objects are selected from the parish at large, including the township of Sychdin, otherwise Soughton, in the adjoining county of Salop.

Watkin Kyffin's Charity.—Watkin Kyffin, late of Glascoed, Esq., left by his will the annual interest of £52 to be weekly distributed in white bread amongst the poor of the said parish for ever. This is charged on an estate called Glascoed, in the township of Llansilin, the property of Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart. A shilling's worth of bread is furnished weekly by a baker, who is paid by Mr. Samuel Williams, a tenant of Sir Watkin's, living at the Cross Foxes at Llansilin. The bread is distributed at the church porch every Sunday morning after service, by the Clerk, according to a list furnished to him, and occasionally revised also by the Vicar and Wardens.

Edward Maurice's Charity.—Edward Maurice, late of Penybont, Esq., left, by his will, in 1732, the interest of £26, to be weekly distributed, in white bread, amongst the poor of this parish for ever.

This is a rent-charge of 26s. a year, issuing out of an estate in Llansilin, called Llaim Wen, lately belonging to David Thomas, deceased, and by him devised to some person living in Oswestry, subject to the above charge. It is paid by the tenant, Humphrey Williams, to a baker, who furnishes sixpenny worth of bread weekly, and which is distributed at the same time and in the same manner as the last-mentioned charity.

Mrs. Rogers's and Unknown Charities.—These two persons left 6s. 8d. each annually; half to the clergyman, and half to the poor in bread. They are charges on land; one on Pentre-ffin Farm, in Sychdin, belonging to Lord Liverpool; which is paid at Christmas by his tenant; and the other 6s. 8d. is paid

(by the agent at Llandegwin, being a charge on some part of Sir Watkin's property) to the Churchwardens, Bread to this amount is given away by the Churchwardens, at the church, on Christmas Day, in penny leaves, to any poor people that come there. There is no list kept of them. The clergyman has the other 6s. 8d., which is paid him by the tenant of Lord Liverpool, Mr. Richard Morris.

This is an arrangement in the place of the tenants paying or applying half of each 6s. 8d. for the two different purposes.

SCHOOL.

There are no documents relating to the origin of this school (which is, indeed, a very small affair), nor of any other of the charities. It does not appear that anything has been left here for the purposes of education. Many years since, before the parish formed part of the Oswestry Union, an annual sum was appropriated (having been left for this purpose) towards apprenticing poor boys; but, at the period mentioned, this ceased, and the sum £4 was paid to a schoolmaster for teaching eight poor children to read, free. These are chosen by the clergyman from the parish at large. There is no house, nor any other endowment than the above.

[Extracted from the Report of the Charity Commissioners, 1837.]

HK.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(July 17, 1878.)

BLAKE, JAMES, who kept an academy for young gentlemen, near Runcorn, in Cheshire, was a native of that county, and has the reputation of having been a most excellent teacher, and a very admirable scholar. He paid much attention to reading and recitation, and a work called "The Universal Piece Writer," which he published in 1811, has been highly commended by gentlemen who had made the art of teaching their study—other works are attributed to his pen, but upon no very good authority.

BLACKMORE, JOHN, a native of Shrewsbury, but who had settled in London as a notary public, left a sum of money at his death in 1578, to the Corporation of that town for the purpose of maintaining a preacher at St. Chad's Church. With this money the Corporation purchased the advowson of the church, and from 1580 to the 13th of Charles the first, they presented to the living; but in that year, the King, at the instance of Laud, assumed the patronage, and it has remained in the Crown ever since, a proof of how clerics, as well as laymen, can set aside the wishes of "pious founders" when they have some personal, or public objects of their own to serve, a thing to be condemned unless it can be shown conclusively that existing trusts have been grossly abused, and that a reform in their administration upon the old lines has become impossible.

BLACKMORE, THOMAS, of London, but a native of Shrewsbury, is worthy of mention as a benefactor to the Church of St. Chad's in his native town. He left a share of his personality in 1578 to the Corporation to support a preacher at that church, and they added a sum of money to his contribution, and purchased in 1581 certain "tythes," out of which was paid the salary of the preacher. This gentleman is called "brother to good John," and we may fairly assume that the John in question is the last-mentioned individual.

BLAKEWAY, RICHARD, a native of Shropshire, having been sent to Westminster School for his education, was in 1676 elected thence to Christ Church, Oxford. He became M.A. in 1688, was made official of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, in 1713, and vicar of High Ercall. He died in 1717. There is a manuscript account of "Parson Blakeway, of High Ercall," in existence, which well deserves publication; it was written in 1720, and it contained references to the churches and clergy of Salop, with notes in the neat hand-writing of J. B. W., evidently Sir

John Bickerton Williams, into whose possession it had passed by purchase. No doubt the "Parson Blakeway" referred to is the gentleman mentioned at the head of this notice.

BLAKEWAY, ROBERT, who, in 1717, published "An Essay towards the cure of Religious Melancholy," was rector of Little Ilford, in Essex, and chaplain to Henry Lord Herbert. He dedicated that work to Mrs. Margaret Offley, and in doing so he dwells upon "the uncommon favour" he received from the Honourable Crewe Offley and herself in his troubles. He was a stout adherent to the Hanoverian succession to the Crown of these realms, and had published in 1715 "An Exhortation to Obedience and Faithful Adherence to King George, in two sermons, preached at Little Ilford." In a MS. note upon the cover of one of the volumes is written "a Salopian by birth, and a member of the Blakeway family settled in that county."

BLOWER, THOMAS, a native of Chester, was educated at Westminster School, from whence he was in 1653, elected to Cambridge, where he took his B.A. degree in 1657; the following year he was made Fellow of his College, and in 1660 he became M.A. afterwards proceeding to his D.D. degree. He was a prebendary at Canterbury from 1673 to 1706, and also Rector of All Hallows in London from 1681 to his death, which took place in 1732. He was esteemed a learned man, and a great preacher, and some say that he wrote and published some books, but we have seen none of them.

BLOMFIELD, CHARLES GEORGE, eldest son of the Rev. George Blomfield (canon of Chester), was born at the Deanery, Chester, in 1828. His mother, Frances Maria Massie, had descended from one of the ancient families of Cheshire, so that both by blood and birth, he was connected with that county. Educated at Rugby and Oxford, he in 1849 proceeded to India, having obtained a commission in the Madras army, and being a proficient in Hindostanee and other dialects of the country he soon obtained promotion, and might have risen to high distinction if the government of that country had remained in the hands of the East India Company. When the management of Indian affairs passed into the Crown, the force to which Captain Blomfield was attached became a civil force, and his services as a civil servant of the Crown, secured for him the respect and confidence of the authorities, both in India and at home. Sixteen years' arduous work in that hot climate told upon his health, and before he could make arrangements to return home, he died in January, 1867, and was buried at Cannamore with military honours; another victim to the glory of England's enterprise, and another heroic instance of how much Englishmen will endure in the performance of duty, and devotion to the interests of their native land.

BLOUNT, GEORGE, grandson of Sir Thomas Blount, was born at Kinlet, in Shropshire, and served with distinction in the Scotch and French Campaigns of Henry VIII., and Edward VI. He was a favourite at Court, and was thus on the highway to fortune and fame. In 1564 he was Sheriff for his native county. Some of his descendants are still alive, and in every generation "the Blounts," have managed to distinguish themselves in some notable manner. Authors, travellers, soldiers, merchants, of the name, one and all claim kindred with the Salopian and Herefordian stocks, and are justly proud of their descents.

BLOUNT, THOMAS, who practised for many years as a physician at Hereford, was a native of that county, and partook largely of the talents that had conspired to confer so much honour upon his ancestor of the same name who had written "Fragmenta Antiquitatis," and other learned

works in relation to the history of his native county. Mr. Duncomb refers to him as a gentleman who had paid some attention to agricultural improvements, but his name will chiefly live in the character he had acquired in the practice of his profession, and the tenderness with which he treated the poor and infirm when in need of medical assistance.

BLUNDEVIL, RANDOLPH, son of Hugh Cyvelioc by Bertha daughter of the Earl of Evreux, was born at Oswestry, in Shropshire. On his father's death in 1181, he succeeded to the Earldom of Chester, and greatly distinguished himself in the sieges of Marlborough and Nottingham, against the adherents of Prince John, who had endeavoured to obtain the government of England. His prowess and bravery served him upon many notable occasions, and secured for him great and deserved honour, for he was ever loyal to the Crown, and equally so to the liberty of the subject. He filled the Earldom of Chester for about half a century, and dying in 1231, childless, his vast inheritance was divided among his four sisters and their descendants.

BLYKE, RICHARD, a native of Herefordshire, deserves very honourable mention, as a gentleman who devoted the best years of his life to the collection and compilation of papers from which to write a history of his native county. Mr. Gough states that he had arranged twenty-two volumes of MSS. : the Duke of Norfolk purchased them and handed them over to Mr. Duncomb for publication, and they are doubtless the chief source from whence that gentlemen derived the portion of Herefordshire history, which some years ago he carried through the press. Mr. Blyke was a fellow of the Antiquarian Society, and he served as deputy auditor of the impost. So assiduous and learned a man is worthy of notice, and as there are ample materials at command, out of which his life might be written, we commend the subject to the attention of Herefordian antiquaries.

BOLD, SAMUEL, was born at Chester, and was educated in that city under the Rev. William Cooke, a clergyman who had been ejected for Nonconformity. He was ordained to the ministry of the Church of England, and for more than half a century was rector of Steeple in Dorsetshire. He wrote and published several controversial works, among them "Man's Great Duty," 1693, "Help to Devotion," 1736. He died in 1737.

BOLTON, RALPH, a native of Cheshire, who, in 1648, gave a sum of money to the Merchant Tailors' Company, in addition to a sum intrusted to the same company in 1642, by Thomas Gammell, for the support of a free grammar school, which they had together founded at Audlem in the same county. He died in 1648. It is said that this gentleman devoted considerable sums of money annually to charitable and religious purposes, and that "he was especially anxious to bring up the young in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord, being assured that in no other way could England hold her own against the foreign conspirators who endeavoured to destroy her Protestant influence in Europe." It would be curious to know if he expressed the same sentiments in his last will and testament, and if he made his bequest to Audlem Grammar School, conditional, or otherwise.

BOOTH, CHARLES, was born in Cheshire, educated at Cambridge, and brought up to the Church. He was appointed Archdeacon of Bucks, and Chancellor of the Marches of Wales. In the year 1516 he was consecrated Bishop of Hereford, and held that see for upwards of eighteen years. He died in 1535, and was buried in the cathedral church of that city.

BOOTH GEORGE, son of Sir John Booth, of Dunham Massey, in Cheshire, was born there in 1635. He was educated for the law, and for many years he filled the office of Prothonotary of Chester. He published a well-known law book "On the nature and practice of Real Actions," and also "A Translation of Diodorus Siculus." He died in 1719.

BOOTH, GEORGE, who is best known as the Earl of Warrington, was a very distinguished Cheshire man. In 1754 he bequeathed the interest of £5,000 to the use of his daughter during life, and after her death "to the placing out of poor children in the parish of Bowden as apprentices, or for sending them to school, or for clothing, or other relief of aged, or infirm poor inhabitants of the same parish." A better model than this for local benefactions could not well be chosen, for it leaves a wise discretion to trustees to deal with the wants of recipients at different times and under various circumstances.

BOOTH, JOHN was son of Roger Booth of Mollington, in Cheshire, and having been educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, for the Church, he in 1522 was collated to the Archdeaconry of Hereford. He died in 1542, and directs in his will that his body should be buried at Chester, and he also makes some curious bequests which are more particularly referred to by Ormerod. He has been mistaken for Charles Booth by some writers, but they were distinct persons, although of kindred, and also connected with the Hereford Great Church.

BOOTH, ROBERT, son of the Hon. Robert Booth, D.D., was dean of Bristol, but born in Cheshire according to Bishop Cotton's notes. He was educated at Westminster School, and in 1716 elected thence to Christ Church, Oxford, where in 1723, he took his M.A. degree. In 1727, he was returned to Parliament as member for Bodmin, but he did not long retain his seat, for he died in 1733. He has the reputation of being "a very learned and accomplished gentleman who had been educated for the Church, but declined to take orders, from concientious motives."

BOOTLE, RICHARD WILBRAHAM, was born at Rode Hall in Cheshire, 1725, being the only son of Randle Wilbraham, and marrying the daughter of Robert Bootle of Latham, he took her name. In 1760 he was chosen member of Parliament for Chester, and continued to sit for that city in five successive Parliaments, to his own great honour, and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. He died in 1796. A model member of Parliament he is said to have been, "true to his party but far more so to his principles," his motto being "Old England first, party afterwards." A score of such men might be introduced into Parliament with great advantage now, for in these degenerate days "Old England" counts for little, when place or pay can best be secured by mere party ties.

BORDWELL, HENRY, son of Robert and Mary Bordwell, of "Lemster," in Herefordshire, was born in that town 1497. He received his education abroad, and according to a curious manuscript written in Norman French he was a preaching friar in Brittany in 1526, and in Poland 1531. Some years later he proceeded to the Spanish possessions abroad, and "devoted his energies to the promulgation of the Christian faith." He may be looked upon as one of the early missionaries who ventured his life for the faith; a labour of love to be regarded by all of us with respect, even when we differ upon some minor points of doctrine or of ritual. This excellent man is supposed to have died in France about 1556.

BORLASE, EDMUND, son of Sir John Borlase, one of the Lords Justices of Ireland, was born, it is said, in

Chester, where he afterwards practised as a physician. He published "A History of the Irish Rebellion," and a work on "Latham Spa." He died in 1682.

BOSTOCK, BRIDGET, a native of Cheshire, and, some say, a descendant of the respectable county family of that name, was a curious character, living about the middle of the last century. She was a veritable witch, and claimed to be able to restore the dead to life, to give sight to the blind, cause the deaf to hear, and the lame to walk. Her fame had evidently reached distant places, for a Sir John Pryse, of Newtown, in Montgomeryshire, was simple enough to write to her, begging that she would visit his house, and bring back to life his dead lady, who was then confined in a room therein. We know that Bridget did visit the worthy baronet; but upon this occasion, at all events, her art failed her, poor Lady Pryse being quietly buried with other dead members of her family, to make room for a successor who refused to wed Sir John, until the remains of his former lady had been removed to mother earth for safety.

BOSTOCKE, LAWRENCE, was born at Bostock, in Cheshire, and was one of the earliest writers upon the antiquities of his native county. His handi-work is contained in a folio MS., written in a very bad hand, and is made up of articles upon descents, pedigrees, notes of families, extracts from old deeds, and a visitation of churches. He also drew sketches of places visited by him, but being a bad draughtsman his efforts in this respect are rude in design, however correct they may be in outline. The date of his death is uncertain.

BOUGHTON, SIR CHARLES HENRY ROUSE, BART., is the eleventh possessor of the baronetcy created in favour of his ancestor in the year 1641. He was born at Hanley Hall, Ludlow, in the year 1825, and has served his country for several years as an officer in the 52nd foot. In 1854 he became a magistrate for Shropshire, and in 1856 succeeded to the title and estates of his ancestors. His mother was the youngest daughter of Thomas Andrew Knight, of Downton Castle, president of the Horticultural Society, and thus he comes to us recommended by a double claim to distinction; his personal prowess, and the just fame of his honoured guardian; and he is worthy of honour for the efforts he has made to enrich his country.

BOWDEN, JOHN, a native of Chester, born there in 1747, gave early promise of that literary ability which secured for his humble name a place in the records of Cheshire. In 1772 he published a poem upon the great explosion in that city, and afterwards some separate works entitled "The Epitaph Writer," "Sententia," &c., &c. He was a most excellent man and much respected by all classes. He died in 1818.

BOWDLER, THOMAS, a Shropshire man, carried on the business of a draper at Shrewsbury, and became an Alderman of that town. He founded in 1724 "The Blue School," for the instruction, clothing, and apprenticing of poor children; eighteen boys and twelve girls were to be placed upon the foundation, and it is stated that many of the children who passed through the Charity have become useful, and even opulent, members of society. Bowdler's Charity is not likely to be forgotten; let us then do honour to the man who founded it.

BOWEN, THOMAS, a native of Shropshire, and educated at Westminster school, whence he proceeded to Cambridge by election in 1654, and took his B.A. degree there in 1658. It is generally believed that he emigrated to America, and became famous there as a writer, but he must not be confounded with another American gentleman of his name, who was a Montgomeryshire man by birth, a quaker in faith, and an emigrant for conscience' sake.

BOWERS, JOHN, was born at Chester, where his father had occupied a respectable position as a leading tradesman, and had long been identified with the Wesleyan Methodist Connexion in that city. Mr. Bowers was thus trained from childhood to fear God, and he determined early in life to become a preacher. He appears to have entered the Methodist Ministry in 1813, and to have laboured in his work with acceptance in divers parts of the country with a zeal and a fervour quite in keeping with the ancient character of the best preachers in that denomination. Having received a fair education in his boyhood, he was fitted to become a teacher of others, and eventually he was chosen to be one of the Tutors at the Methodist College at Didsbury, near Manchester. After forty-eight years service in the Ministry he was in 1861 chosen President of Conference, being the fourth Cheshire man who had attained to that high and responsible position.

BOWERS, THOMAS, was born at Shrewsbury in the year 1637, and having proceeded to Cambridge for his education, he became a Fellow of St. John's. In 1713 he was made Archdeacon of Canterbury, and two years afterwards Prebendary of that Church. In 1722, he was elevated to the see of Chichester, being permitted to hold his other preferments in commendam. He died Aug. 22nd, 1724, in his sixty-fifth year.

BOYCOTT, SYLVANUS, son of William Boycott, of Boycott, in Shropshire, was born there. He and his brother Francis had served King Charles the First in the Civil Wars, and may be mentioned as among the very few trusted friends who had the smallest reason for remembering Charles the Second with affection. In 1663 that monarch, who paid his many debts in paper honours, and reserved his more valuable gifts for his mistresses and their descendants, granted to Sylvanus Boycott (and his brother Francis) a special patent of arms "for having manifested their loyalty to their Sovereign, King Charles 2nd, by sundry services in the times of his great distresses, and for their prudent deportment in sundry employments of trust." His Majesty is graciously pleased to state in the same document, that "William Boycott, their father, had done the same to his late Majesty King Charles I., of ever blessed memory." This is a fair sample of Stuart gratitude, but it satisfied Sylvanus, and we need not therefore grumble.

BOYCOTT, THOMAS, born in Shropshire, and known as of Rudge, in that county, has been forced into prominence by the energy and perseverance which characterized his "persecution" of Thomas Olivers, a celebrated preacher among the early Methodists. He was son of the Rev. Richard Boycott, rector of Wellington, Salop, educated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1731. He settled at Brynffynnon, near Wrexham, where he married Jane Puleston, of Pickhill, and spent years of his life there in the active pursuits of a country gentleman, and a zealous magistrate. In this latter capacity he was called upon to deal with Thomas Olivers, and he did not treat him very kindly, but it is always fair to remember that the justices of the last century as a rule viewed Methodism in the light of a great political conspiracy against the Church and the State, and dealt with the promoters of it accordingly, we know indeed how this zeal often carried the magisterial mind far beyond the bounds of equity and of justice, it was "a zeal without knowledge," a passion, a prejudice, but often animated by the highest honour and the conviction, that, in duty to the Crown, every form of Dissent should be repressed with a strong hand. We may charitably hope that Mr. Boycott's conduct was no worse,

and that his "persecution" of Olivers can now be designated by the less ugly name of intolerance, without laying ourselves open to the suspicion of giving it our sanction. Under any name it was bad, and will for ages remain a blot upon the fair fame of English ecclesiastical history. He died in 1798, and is buried at Whitchurch.

BOYCOTT, WILLIAM, was born in Shropshire, and is mentioned as a gentleman who had rendered peculiar services to King Charles the First in his sore distress. He is supposed to be the lineal descendant of the Bagot who held Longnor-upon-Severn under the Bishop of Chester, and who is mentioned in Domesday Book. He did not live to see the restoration of the Stuarts, but was father to Sylvanus above-named who did, and to Francis, to whom reference is made in that notice.

AUGUST 21, 1878.

THE CONFESSONAL IN CHURCHES.—The following does not quite come within the scope of *Bye-gones*, but arises out of a reply of May 8:—"There is a regularly constructed confessional-box in the chapel of Haddon Hall, Derbyshire, consisting (if I recollect well), of a high pew for the priest, and a lower pew, enclosed for the penitent, who may be seen from the nave. The partition between the priest and the penitent has an opening about a foot square in it. There is, or was, not many years ago, also a confessional-cell in Ripon Collegiate Church having two separate approaches, the one from the direction of the choir, for the priest, and the other, from the church, for the penitent. The partition which divides the priest's cell from the penitent's seat has an opening of about a foot square in it, similar to the one in Hadden Hall chapel. The steps on which the contrite ones kneel, while conveying their sighs and whispers to the priest's ear, were literally worn by its frequent use. This opening in the Ripon cell is called *St. Wilfrid's Needle*. There is a tradition connected with it which I forget.—T. W. HANCOCK."

NOTES.

STAGE COACHES IN SOUTH WALES.—The death is recorded, in the *Gents' Mag*: for July 1814, of Mr. Thomas Longfellow of Brecon, aged 88, "who for many years kept the Golden Lion Inn there, and was the original proprietor of the Stage Coaches into South Wales, as well as the oldest coach-master in the kingdom."

REBECCA.

MONTGOMERY GAOL IN 1803.—The following are Mr. Nield's remarks on Montgomery Gaol, conveyed in a letter to Dr. Lettson:—

Montgomery County Gaol.—Gaoler, John Davies; salary, £35. Fees, debtors 8s. 4d., besides which the under-sheriff demands 7s. 6d. for his liberate! Felons pay no fees. For conveyance of transports, one shilling per mile. Garnish, abolished. Chaplain, Rev. Charles Williams, salary £20, duty, every Sunday prayers and sermon, and visits every day those who are under sentence of death. Surgeon, Mr. Jones, for felons only, salary £8. Number of prisoners, Sep. 8, 1803:—Debtors 3, felons, &c., 10, lunatics 3. Of the latter three lunatics one was Aaron Bywater, committed for murder, but acquitted on the ground of insanity. He had killed a fellow prisoner here. Allowance, sixpence a day each, in bread.

Remarks.—This gaol is finely situated, on a rising ground. Here is one court yard for men and women-debtors, 44 feet by 32, with a sewer in it; a dayroom, 14 feet square, and a small room adjoining, fitted up with a bath and boiler.

Above stairs they have also eight good sized rooms, three of which are free-wards. The county allows no bedding, except straw on the floor. The keeper furnishes beds at 1s. 6d. per week the single bed, but 2s. per week if two sleep together.

The men-felons have a small court-yard, and a day-room, with six sleeping-cells on the ground-floor, the average size about 8ft. 6in. by 7ft., and 9ft. 6in. high. Also upstairs two sleeping-rooms or cells. The women-felons have likewise a small court-yard; a day-room, with one sleeping-cell on the ground floor,

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and two rooms above stairs; to all which the county allows wooden bedsteads, with straw, two blankets, and a rug.

A large room over the entrance-door of the gaol is used as a chapel, but not partitioned off, so as to keep the classes, male and female, distinct from each other.

A small room is set apart for the sick. The well was out of repair, and no water accessible.

The Rev. Thomas Powell, formerly chaplain to this prison, left by his will the interest of £20 to be laid out every winter in coals for the use of the gaol prisoners. A memorial of this deserves to be recorded; but I did not find it so in the gaol.

Mr. Nield also reports on the House of Correction at Montgomery, and makes some remarks on the state in which he found the lunatics at the County Gaol.

BLACKPOOL.

A WELSH MEADOW.—Mr. Robert Holland, of Norton Hill, Runcorn, writing to *Science Gossip*, in September last says, that towards the end of the previous June, with a friend he took a stroll one evening from Dolgelley in the direction of Cader Idris; and

some three miles or more from Dolgelley we came upon a small meadow, certainly not more than an acre in extent, which appeared from the road to be almost covered with various kinds of Orchids. On a closer inspection, we found great quantities of *Gymnadenia conopsea*, of *Habenaria chlorantha*, of *Listera ovata*, and of *Orchis maculata*, and such a profusion of many other pretty and some not very common plants, that we determined to search the place carefully, and for our own amusement to put down all the species we could find in this fertile little spot. Probably there is scarcely another acre to be found containing not only so many species of wild plants, but so many individuals of certain species.

In all they counted eighty species, without taking into account the hedges and trees, and darkness coming on they had to give up the search. Mr. Holland remarks that at the time of his visit the field was "perhaps chiefly conspicuous for the Orchids, and for the amazing undergrowth of Fairy Flax;" but, they thought, "at various times other plants will be in the ascendant." Later on in the season, "the moister portions will be yellow over with the fragrant Asphodel, and the drier parts blue with Scabious; whilst the pretty pink *Pedicularis* will give it a rosy tint." He describes the field as "the Gayest Little Garden imaginable."

D.

QUERIES.

SHROPSHIRE INN SIGNS.—Walking some years ago from Ironbridge to Shrewsbury, I passed, not far from Coalbrookdale, and near some iron-works, a public-house called "Labour in Vain," on the signboard of which was painted a blackamoor in a tub, and two people washing him. On another occasion, between Shifnal and Wolverhampton, at half a dozen miles from the former place, I observed a sign in gilt letters "The Horns of Bonninghall." There is some significance, perhaps, in the "black country" signboard, but how about the one near Shifnal?

H.G.

THE BICKERTONS OF SANDFORD.—In a paper on "Shropshire Patriotism in 1798," published in the first vol. of the *Transactions* of the "Shropshire Archæological Society," I have stated that the first subscription recorded in the county is given in the following editorial note in the *Salopian Journal* of Feb. 5, 1798, as follows:—

We have authority to inform our readers that Mr. Joseph Bickerton, of Sandford Hall, has paid into the Bank of England, Ten Guineas, above all taxes whatever, as a voluntary subscription, in aid of Government, towards the Exigencies of the State.

Can any of your readers say how long the Bickerton family has been connected with the county of Salop? I

have, amongst my late father's papers several letters to him from the late Sir John Bickerton Williams—they were both descended from the Sandford Bickertons—and in one of them the following note occurs :—

Bickertons. Descended from ye Normans. Came into England with William. Resided at Maiden Castle, Cheshire. Coat of arms, ye three broad arrows. Their estates were sequestered in ye civil war. One of ye family married a near relation of ye Rev. Mr. Henry's, after which they became more prosperous.

Many of the family have been leading Nonconformists at a period when Nonconformists had almost to apologise for presuming to exist; and as far back as 1725 (or thereabouts) the names of three of them are appended to a document connected with the Old Chapel, Oswestry, when the Rev. Joseph Venables was minister. Nearly a century later (1807) in a report of the Sunday and Day Schools connected with the same chapel (which were then the only institutions of the kind existing in Oswestry) we have two of the family amongst the committee; one of whom, Mr. R. Bickerton, was mayor of the town in 1784, and died, the senior alderman in 1811. In his "Border County Worthies," Mr. Salisbury mentions another member of the family, Mr. Bickerton, of Roden (a friend of Rowland Hill's), who built a chapel in that Shropshire village. The present High-Sheriff of Worcestershire, Mr. Edw. Bickerton Evans, of Whitburne Hall, Worcester, comes of the same stock, and some of the older Oswestrians may remember his grandfather, Mr. Bickerton, residing in Salop-road. J. J. R.

REPLIES.

WELSH JUDGES (July 17, 1878).—I have made notes at various times relative to Welsh judges, some of which I will now record, as the subject has turned up in *Bye-gones* :—

1745. Feb. Died, Henry Proctor, Esq., one of the Welsh judges. William Harvey, Esq., appointed.

1756. Dec. The Hon. Mr. Barrington appointed a Welsh judge in the room of Taylor White, second justice of Chester.

1766. Mar. Mr. Sergeant Whittaker promoted to the office of Welsh judge in the room of John Richmond Webb, Esq., deceased.

1784. April. Richard Pepper Arden, Esq., appointed to the several offices of chief justice of the counties of Denbigh and Montgomery, and justice of the counties of Chester and Flint, vice Lloyd Kenyon, Esq., promoted to the office of Master of the Rolls, and to be of His Majesty's most honourable Privy Council.

1796. Nov. Died, at the George Inn, Northampton, on his journey from Buxton to London, Edward Bearcroft, Esq., M.P. for Saltash, and chief justice of Chester.

1806. Sep. Died, suddenly, in consequence of an apoplectic fit, aged 61, John Lloyd, Esq., of Berth-hall, co. Denbigh, chief justice of the counties of Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Denbigh, and a King's counsel. His eminence as a lawyer was only surpassed by his virtues as a man; the independence of his mind was only exceeded by the urbanity of his disposition. He was the intimate friend of the late lamented Lord Thurlow, who survived him but three days. Mr. L. had lately returned from the circuit, and during the whole course of his tour, and when he left Cardigan, the last town in rotation, he appeared in perfect health, and in that state arrived at his town-house, where he was taken ill, and expired.—*Gents: Mag:*

Mr. Lloyd (who was the grandfather of a valued correspondent to *Bye-gones*) is accredited with being the author of the *bon mot* touching the mercifulness of a Welsh Jury, (See *Mont: Coll:* in the Parochial Account of Llangurig), although the joke has been attributed to Mr. George Harding, chief justice of the Brecon circuit, who died in 1816 (see *Bye-gones*, Aug. 16, 1876). Mr. Hugh Leicester, mentioned by "N.W.S." July 17, was the author of some very clever verses on Welsh Slates, which are given in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*. The Hon.

Daines Barrington, appointed in 1756, was the friend of White of Selburne, and the man who first gave to the world Sir John Wynne's *History of the Gwydir Family*. G.G.

SADLER THE AERONAUT (Jan. 16, 1878).—"G.G." asks some particulars about a balloon ascent by this man early in the month of Oct. 1812, on the occasion of his coming to grief off Holyhead. From an account published at the time I learn that the ascent was made on Oct. 1, and from Belvedere House, near Dublin, at one o'clock in the afternoon. A south-west wind brought him in five-and-thirty minutes within sight of the Welsh mountains; at three o'clock he was nearly over the Isle of Man; and the wind blowing fresh he found himself approaching the Welsh Coast; and at four o'clock he had a distant view of the Skerry Lighthouse, and the prospect of a speedy arrival at Liverpool. The wind shifting he was driven back, and night coming on he precipitated himself in the sea, at a point where he saw five vessels. He called to the men on board the nearest to run their bowsprit through the balloon, which was dragging his car rapidly through the water. This being done, a line was thrown out to him, and he was taken on board, quite exhausted. Sadler was then conveyed to Liverpool, and from thence returned to Dublin by way of Holyhead. S.U.

WELSH AND BORDER PRESS (Apr. 10, 1878.) I picked up a book the other day, the title of which may be interesting to Mr. ALLNUTT. It runs as follows :—

Y Gymraeg yn ei Disgleirdeb, neu helaeth Eirlyfr Cymraeg a Saesnaeg, yn cynwys llawer Mwy o Eiriau Cymraeg nag sydd yng Eirlyfr y Disgawdr Sion Dafis o Gymraeg a Lading.

A Gasglwyd ar y Cyntaf, Drwy ddifawr boen, a Diwydrwydd Thomas Jones, ac yn awr a ddibenrwyd, gan Richard Morris, o Lanmihangel, tre'r Beirdd yn Sir Fôn.

Argraphwyd yn y Mwythyn, gan Stafford Prys, tros Llywelyn ab Joan, o blyw Llan-dona yn Ynys Fôn, 1760.

The title-page is Englished thus :—

The British Language in its Lustre, or a Copious Dictionary of Welsh and English. Containing many more British Words than are in Dr. Davies's *Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ Dictionarium Duplex*.

At First compiled by the great Pains and Industry of Thomas Jones; and now finished by Richard Morris, of Temple St. Mihangel Town, in the County of Anglesea.

Shrewsbury: Printed by Stafford Prys, for Lewis Jones, of the Parish of Llan-dona, in the Isle of Anglesea. 1760.

Mr. Leighton in his list of Shrewsbury booksellers in the record of one of the Guilds, gives Stafford Pryse, under the date of May 24, 1758, and as paying only 17s. 4d., which shews he was not a "foreigner," or he would have had to pay £10. In a newspaper I have also seen, under date 1798, an account of an attempted robbery of the house of Mrs. Pryse, bookseller, of Shrewsbury. JARCO.

STRAY NOTES.

A SALOPIAN INVENTION.—Printers, before the invention of composition rollers inked the type with balls covered with leather. It is said that the composition was accidentally discovered by Edward Dyas, parish clerk and printer, of Madeley. He was in a hurry to get a "proof" one day, and his pelt-ball not being at hand he seized a piece of soft glue that had fallen out of the glue pot, and finding it do the work so well, he improved upon the accidental invention. Dyas flourished early in this century. He seems to have been an ingenious man, and one of the books he printed was illustrated by engravings he himself cut, and the type was set up by a woman.

POST-OFFICE CURIOSITIES.—The following examples of curious postal addresses on letters received in the county of Salop were sometime ago published in a Shrewsbury paper:—"Mikell Williss at Tarbick Dingle near Colley Shropshire." "Mr. John Larizhies, Hy Street Salop." "Mrs. Meary Williams, to be left at the Postoffes Till Cold for Sosbury." "Wm. Hutson, at Shrewsbury, Near Bridge North, Shrop Shire."

IN FOURTEEN PLACES AT ONE TIME.—Under this heading we gave last week a novel account of a singularly situated locality. An instance of the same nature was recorded by Mr. Hulbert in 1838 as follows:—At Pentre, near Edgerley, in the parish of Kinnerley, is an ash tree growing, which stands in the dioceses of Lichfield, St. Asaph, and Hereford; the manors of Kinnerley, Great Ness and Shrawardine; the townships of Ruyton, Shrawardine, and Edgerley; and the hundreds of Oswestry and Pimhill.

THE WELSH COSTUME.

Almost a sensation was created in Swansea on Saturday, August 10th, says a South Wales daily paper, by the appearance in the streets and market of several young ladies, daughters of some of the principal families, dressed in the Welsh costume. The dresses were of course made of the very best Welsh flannel, the "bedgowns" and the under-petticoat being of black and red plaid reaching down to nearly the ankle, with white and black plaid aprons, the corners being pinned back in accordance with true orthodox Welsh peasantry fashion. The black cockle-shell fashioned bonnet and white linen cuffs (up to the elbow) completed the very picturesque costume, and we need scarcely say that these charming young ladies were the "cynosure of all eyes" and the special admiration of young gentlemen. Even the most prejudiced could not but acknowledge that the dress was most becoming and modest, a vast improvement upon the extravagantly tight-fitting absurdities of "fashion" of the present day. The dress being short affords perfect ease in walking, and when it is more generally adopted (as it now unquestionably will be) will give a much-needed impulse to one of our important local industries—the Welsh flannel trade.

REMARKABLE CAREER OF A WELSHMAN.

We have received the following communication:—Mr. David David, whose death from an accident near Llantwit Major was mentioned on Friday, was a man whose history is worth being recorded. He started life when only twelve years of age as a stable-boy, at Dunlands, under the Rev. Robert Carne, of that place. At the age of sixteen he joined the Royal Navy, and for many years distinguished himself in several severe battles with pirates, more particularly with the Dyaks of Borneo. He was once pinned by a cutlass to the mast, and left in that state whilst the vessel was taken and retaken, and at length being liberated, after a long and serious illness, recovered, and returned to his native soil. Had he been a good scholar he would have obtained the rank of lieutenant in the Royal Navy, but all that could be done for him was done by the Admiralty Board of that time. The Rajah of Sarawak had a great partiality for him, and constantly wrote to him. Mr. David spent some time in Mr. Talbot's former yacht after he had left the Royal Navy. Large sums of prize money were paid to Mr. David, and he was one of the first persons in the Llantwit district who introduced steam thrashing machines, drills, and other useful and improved agricultural implements. Thus went the principal portion of his prize money, and latterly he having been unfortunate in his speculations

was reduced to the trade of a carrier between the towns of Bridgend and Llantwit, and it was on the road between these two places that he met with the accident which caused his death. The particulars, no doubt, will be given at the inquest. The writer of these few lines is only anxious to bear testimony to the worth of a good and honest man, and whom the writer, having known since his boyhood, was proud to have called his friend. May he rest in peace.—J. W. S. C. St. Donat's Castle, August 9, 1878.—*South Wales Daily News.*

OSWESTRY CHARTERS.

(From the Oswestry Advertiser.)

As I infer from the report of the *Advertiser* that the Oswestry Council are not by any means sure what Charters they possess, allow me to furnish them with lists of what they did possess in 1573, in 1635 and in 1834. To take the last date first. On the 9th of July in that year the Royal Commission (on the Municipal Corporations Act) applied to our Town Clerk to know what Charters had been preserved, and the following list was sent up:—

1399. 14th Aug. 22nd Rich: II. A Grant to the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Oswestry.

1407. 25th June. 8th Henry IV. Charter to ditto from Thomas Earl of Arundel, the Lord of the Seigniorship or Lordship of Oswestry.

1531. 22nd May. 24th Eliz: Charter to same from Phillip Earl of Arundel, as Lord of the Seigniorship or Lordship of Oswestry.

1617. 15th Mar. 14th James I. Charter of Incorporation from King James the First to the Bailiffs and Burgesses of Oswestry.

1674. 15th Jan. 25th Charles II. Charter granted by King Charles the Second, incorporating the Borough of Oswestry by the names of Mayor, Aldermen, Common Councilmen, and Burgesses of the Borough of Oswestry, in the county of Salop.

In Price's *History of Oswestry*, published in 1815, there is another one mentioned, called by the Welsh "Siarter Cwtta" for its brevity. This was granted in the reign of Hen. II., by William, Earl of Arundel. The same book also mentions one granted to the Bakers, by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, in Oct., 1582. Mr. Cathrall, in his *History*, copying Price, (as I shewed in *Bye-gones*, June 30, 1875) all but overlooks the Charter of James I. and gives that of Charles II. the merit of being the "Magna Charta of Oswestry."

In 1635 (as readers of *Bye-gones* will know) Mr. Davies, the Recorder of Oswestry, at the request of the Earl of Arundel, wrote a history of the town, which is preserved in MS. at the British Museum. In it there are Charters copied not included in other lists; so I presume some of these have been "diminish'd and lost," as we are told have been the Parish Registers for some years. The following is a list of those in "Davies's MS."—

Charters of the Earls of Arundel (six pages).

King Richd. the Second his Ch're to the Burgesses of Oswestry (nine pages).

Charter of the Earl of Arundel to the English Burgesses of Oswestry (ten pages).

Charter of Insuperimus from William Earl of Arundel (twelve pages).

William Earl of Arundel, to the Mercers, Grocers, &c., of Oswestry.

Apud Charter House 22^o die May anno regis dom' an' regine Elizabeth 24^o (thirty-four pages)

May I say in passing, that we Oswestrians would hail with satisfaction the prospect of Mr. Stanley Leighton's taking in hand the whole of "Davies's MS." From what I am told by those who have examined it, portions of it would tend to elucidate the Charters.

The oldest list of the Charters of Oswestry that has been preserved is in an Ancient Record Book of the Corporation, Mr. Alderman Minshall once accidentally saved from the paper mill! This Mr. T. W. Hancock is copying for me, and already readers of *Bye-gones* have had the benefit of it; notably in the interesting list of Burgesses, (1553-4) published Mar. 28, 1877. On another of its pages we have the following entry, giving a list of Charters, &c., handed over from the retiring Bailiffs to their successors, much in the same way as the Corporation tinsel is handed down from Mayor to Mayor in the present age.

Dec'o sext' die octobr. a°. R.R. Elizabeth &c.
deci'o sexto.

Md. that Rich'd Will'ms & Edd. Edwards gent. bayliffs of the towne of Oswestree have received into their charge by the hands of Rich'd Staney and John Wyn gent late bayliffes these the charters & evidents undermentioned, (videlt).

1. One charter of Wm Earle of Arundell dated xxiiij' a'o R.R. Henr vij xix°
2. One other charter of Thomas Earle of Arundell dated xxv° Jan'ry a'o R.R. Henry iiijti octavi.
3. One other charter of Will'm Earle of Arundell dated xx° octobr a'o R.R. Henr. oct. de'o sexto.
4. One other charter of Thomas Earle of Arundell dated xxv° Jan'ry a'o Henr. iiijti, oct'o.
5. One other charter of Thomas Earle of Arundell dat xxvij° febr. a'o Henry vij. duodeci'o.
6. One other charter Rich. Earle of Arundell Dated xxv° maij a'o R.R. Ric. ij. secundo.
7. One deed of release made by Thomas Earle of Arundell date xxv° Jan'ry a'o Henr' quarto octavo.
8. One little charter graunted by Will'm fitzalyn.
9. One other pece of evidence w'thout a Seale dated xx° April a'o Henr' quart' secundo.
10. One other deede mad by Edward Earle of Arundell date 1 Sept s'th a'o R.R. Edwardi.

Id.
It'm R'd two payres of boltes & fyve ke's.

It'm received the towne scales.

It'm one hook lock.

It'm received certen bills & other mynym'ts conteyned in certen boxes.

It'm received one elne & a yarde of yron.

It'm received certen old bills tyed in a pece of p'rchm't.

Wittnes

Rich willms on of the bayliffs.

Edd. Edwards bayliff.

John Lloyd.

Richard Staney.

John Wyn'.

Randall Lloyd.

Wyllm Jones.

There is a later entry of the Charters differing in some measure from this, which I will give another week.

The Charter of Charles the Second (which was the governing Charter of Oswestry before the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, in 1834,) gives the names of the first Mayor and Corporation elected under its provisions, but as was shewn in *Bye-gones* (see Reprint 1871-3, p. 229), several refused to act and others had to be appointed. JARCO.

THE PILLORY IN SHREWSBURY.—Mary Evans, convicted on April 13, 1794, of keeping a disorderly house in Shrewsbury, was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment, and to stand in the Pillory one hour. The woman was better known as Mistress Cates.

A MULTITUDE OF FISHES AT ELLESMERE.—On Sunday, Aug. 29, 1731, at Newton-mere, Ellesmere, about a mile in compass, says a record of the period, "a surprising quantity of Fish rose on the surface of the Water, which was thought to be poys'n'd. At first People eat of the Fish without Damage, but beginning to stink, Labourers and Carters were employ'd several Days to carry them away and bury them. 'Tis hardly conceivable such Multitudes could be contained in so narrow a Compass of Water."

A THOUSAND LASHES!—On May 24, 1794, Andrew White, a private in the 17th Lancers, was taken to Shrewsbury gaol charged with a murderous assault on a chimney sweeper named Thomas Ford. The mob sided with White and released him. The ringleader, a soldier named Francis Thompson was afterwards apprehended at Southampton, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He had previously been tried by Court Martial, and sentenced to a thousand lashes, but after receiving one-hundred-and-seventy-five was unable to endure more. On his promising to serve for life as a private soldier in Jamaica, after his sentence at Shrewsbury expired, the rest of the flogging was remitted.

HOW SIN WAS PUNISHED AT BISHOP'S CASTLE.—1593. At this time God began to correct us with so severe a chastisement that 174 men and children, seized with a most grievous and violent pestilence, died. That it pleased God to afflict us because when His word was plentifully preached we brought not forth the just and holy fruits of the Spirit, but despising His word, profaned his Sabbath; for on the 24th June, which was the Lord's Day, the greatest part of the aldermen and inhabitants of this borough agreed that the fair should be kept on that day; wherefore as thieves they were taken in their wickedness. On the 21st of October in the same year (through the mercy of God) the pestilence ceased.—*Gents. Mag.* (1751) quoting Parish Register.

AUGUST 23, 1878.

THE CONFESSIONAL IN CHURCHES. (Aug. 21, 1873).—There is in a Wiltshire Church a so-called "Confessional" (this of course is a modern word); on examination I found it to be a patchwork of different dates, made into a reading desk in the times of James I., c. 1604. I know nothing of Haddon Hall Chapel of the 16th century, but if the "confessional" in any wise, if it be possible, resembles that of the Pre-Norman Ripon Crypt, I doubt its application. I never heard of a "confessional cell." "S. Wilfrid's needle" is a silly name of the time of Elizabeth, which was founded on a gossiping story about an ordeal severe as the waters of jealousy. It is simply the niche for a lamp or reliquary, which has been roughly pierced through into the passage leading to the upper church. Ex uno disce omnes. I have treated the subject in my "Sacred Archeology."—MACKENZIE E. C. WALCOTT.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Mar. 26, 1877.)

Md. That we Thomas lloidd and Thomas W'ms gent bailiffs of the towne of Oswestry have brought with us to thassises at Bridgenorth three severall charters that is to saie one of wy' Earle of Arundel bearing date the vij yre of Henrie the viijti and thother ye chartre of Thomas late Earles of Arundel whereof th'on bearing date Ao. R.R. Henrie viijti xijo and thother bearinge date Ao R.R. Henrie viijti. viij.

Thomas Lloyd
Thomas Wylylams

Wytness hereof
Jon. lloid esquier Thomas lloyd thelder
wyll'm Goughe

Robert goughe esq'ere
Md. xxvijto nov'r ij 1573 the
three Charters above
pre'nt' were brought to
the ellec'on house &
deliv'rd to the chest.

Apud Oswestre the v day
of October Ao 1550

Md. That John Staney hath mad his reconyng the v day of October in the fourthe year of the raine of o'r souveraine lord kyng Edwarde the vjt. then beyng bailiffes Thomas Staney and Hugh Johns m'r'r and Robert ap Thomas and Ievan ap Ho'll Broute before them with the rest of the ko Burgess at the v'ch tyme the sayd John hath takyn in opyn haulte to the sayd bailiffes and ko Burgess in money the some of vjl*i*. xs. And furthyr hath Delyvered in stores xxvijs. And he is furthyr charged w'th xixs. viij*d*. according to his book of accompts w'ch he hath broughtin ne'th'r money nor stores so that ther Restyth holy in the Bockes between this reconyng and all other before this untill this day in money and gold xliij*i*. xiijs. of the w'ch some ther is xxviij*i*. in gold of his.

Md. for the xixs. viij*d*. w'ch John Staney is chargyd w'thall he has ordry to delyv're Rog'r ap John Wyn in paym't xs. & Thom's morlas ijd.

Tooke of the some above writtyn by the consente of the holellection to geve Jeñn lloyd ap M'red [Mereydd] vii.

M. That the iij day of January an'o 1552 ther was c'rt'n money taken out conc'ning the townes byssynes and y't ther was left the said day in the bocks the some of xx*i*. in gold. And this done in open hault.

It'. Res'yd of the Gould that was in the box A bov 'n y'wrytyng to the towne byssynes on the xj daye of June the vj yerre of Ed. the vj kyng the some of vij*i*.

It'. Kept in the boc the same day xij*i*.

Md. This [xiiij] was takyn out by Rob't trevor & Hugh Johnes bailiffes in the presence of c'erten of the burgess to pay gruffth furbur ix*i*. xij*s*. iij*d*. And to pay Thomas Staney thelder iij*i*. vjs. viij*d*. the last of ffebruary R. R. Edd. Sexti septimo.

Quarto die Junij Anno R. Rne.
Eliz. &c. xxxviijo.

Md. That the day and year above said David Hanmer and Roger Edwards gent. late bailiffs of the said Towne of Oswestre gave upp their accompt in wrytyng and upon their othes befor Richard Drihurst and John Blodwell gent. nowe bailiffes of the said Towne and befor the rest of the burgesses there in open ellecon. And so yt app'eth upon the said accompt that Roger Edwards gent is to r'cy'r of the Towne nowe that he hath layed out the som of iij*i*. ijs. iij*d*. w'ch is nowe allowed unto him by making of Jo'n Lewes burgesse.

The wholle som rec : by them }
both that yere is }
xxviij*i*. xixs. ijd.

The whole some disbursed by them xxxij*i*. ijs. vjd.

The Accompt of John Edwards groser (?) for mackinge of the panmant in *Ulove* Strett the yere above said and in open Election

Rsd. of John ap David ap Jeñn
for Burgesip. iij*i*.
Rsd. of ffrances Smallman iij*i*. ix*s*. vjd.
Rsd. of John Boudell xs.
Rsd. nowe of the Strett xxxviij*d*.
Somaris [Summary] Rsd.
xli. jd.

Disbursed as app'reth by his not withis
Delivered to the chest x*i*. vjs. viij*d*.
Rest to him 6/7*d*.

By us Rich : Drihurst.
John Blodwell.

XXXX.

xxviijo die October
Anno Dom 1596 Ao R Re
Eliz. &c. xxxviijo.

Md. That the day and yeare above said Richard Drihurst and Thomas Cooper gent. nowe bailiffs of the towne of Oswestree have taken a vew & note of all such Chr'es [Charters] bookes bolts & other things herein expressed app'teyning to the said towne (viz) Imprimis a Charter lately confirmed by her Ma'stie and a charter from Kyng Richard.

Itm. the late booke of constitucion
Itm. a greate booke of the Burgesses names
Itm. two Iron boulte & iij shackles
Itm. an Iron chaine & a shackle
Itm. one Iron elne
Itm. one yarde of Iron
Itm. the comon seale of the towne in brasse

Md. the xxth day of October Ao dm. 1597 Randall lloid & John Kynaston gent. nowe Bailiffs of the towne of [name omitted] have taken a vewe & note of all such Chr'es bookes bowlt'es & other thynges herein expressed & laide downe apperteyninge to the saide Towne videlt.

Imprimis iij charters
Itm. the book of constitution
Itm. the book of the names of the Burgesses
Itm. ij Iron boltes & iij shackles
Itm. one Iron chaine & a shackle
Itm. one Iron elne
Itm. one yarde of Iron
Itm. the comen seale of the towne in brasse

THE TELEGRAPH SEVENTY YEARS AGO.

The newspapers of June, 1803, inform us that "a line of communication, by means of telegraphs, is to be established between London and Milford Haven; by which medium, although these places are 250 miles apart, intelligence will be conveyed in three hours."

NEMO.

QUERIES.

LORD HILL'S COLUMN.—We are told in some of the Handbooks and Guides to Shrewsbury, that "the original design for the column was by Mr. Haycock, of Shrewsbury," and that "the lions couchant" on the pedestal, were "worked out of Grinshill stone by Mr. Carline of this town." On looking over some old volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine* the other day, I came across the following paragraph in the "Historical Chronicle" for June, 1814:—"The Committee for superintending the erection of the column near Shrewsbury in honour of Lord Hill, have adjudged their highest premium to R. Westmacott, Esq., of London, sculptor, and royal academican; the second to Mr. Edward Haycock, and the third to Mr. John Carline, jun., both of Salop." The two local men seem to have had a finger in the pie, what became of the design by Westmacott? Was it too expensive, that native talent was thus encouraged?

SCROBBES BYRIG.

OSWESTRY STREET ACT.—In the *History of Oswestry* published by Mr. Price we are told that the Act of Parliament for paving, lighting, &c., the streets of Oswestry, was passed in 1809. The *Salopian Journal* for Sep., 1794, contained the following notice:—"Notice is hereby given that application is intended to be made to Parliament in the ensuing Session for an Act for the better paving, lighting, and cleansing of the streets, and other public passages and places in the town of Oswestry, in the county of Salop; and for removing and preventing nuisances therein." How was it, if

notice was given to apply for an Act in 1794-5, it was not obtained until 1809? I have previously said (July 17, 1878) in a query about Lord Mayor Swinnerton, that the money expended in obtaining the Act of 1809, was that left by the Lord Mayor for another purpose. Was the Act of 1794-5 abandoned for want of funds? JARCO.

REPLIES.

CANN OFFICE, NEAR WELSHPOOL (Aug. 14, 1878).—Forty years ago I was at school at Cann Hall, Bridgnorth, and my recollection of the place is that it was a very ancient building that had seen better days. We boys firmly believed that there was a subterranean passage from it, under the Severn, to the Castle, in the high town, but I am not aware it was ever explored! Mr. Randall, in his *Salopian* magazine for July, 1878, says "Cann Hall is a good type of an old town mansion. It was once the residence of the Canns, of whom little is known; and here Prince Rupert, on the 21 Sep. 1642, dated his letter to the Burgesses of the town" on the choice of Bailiffs. All this forms but a very imperfect reply to Mr. HUGHES's query, still it is a reply, and must be taken for what it is worth. J.J.R.

CHURCH BELLS (Apr. 24, 1878).—Some explanation of the mysteries of change ringing by an expert would, I fancy, be acceptable to your readers. The various records from time to time in *Bye-gones* would be additionally interesting were readers "up" in the subject. On Apr. 24, SCROBBES BYRIC recorded the ringing of a peal of Grandire Cators, in St. Mary's tower, *Shrewsbury*, in 1802, "being the first true 5,000 ever rung on those bells," and I have just met with the following account of a similar performance in *Wrexham*.—On June 26, 1803, was rung at Wrexham, by the Senior Members of the Union Society, a peal of Grandire Cators, containing 5,021 changes, in 3 hours 14 minutes, "being the only true peal ever completed in the Principality of Wales." At Shrewsbury the peal consisted of 5058 changes, and at Wrexham, of 5021. In the former place the Union Society were 3h. 39m. over the work, at the latter 3h. 14m. Another record before me, also relates to Shrewsbury; as follows:—"On July 5, 1803, was rung by a select part of the Union Society, at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, Mr. Holt's original Peal of Double Grandire Tripples, containing 5040 Changes; being the first Peal out of London in the above method; which was performed in a correct and masterly stile in three hours and fifteen minutes. The above peal was called by Mr. William Bull." It will be observed that all these changes were rung by members of the Union Society; and it would be interesting to know where this society hailed from, and how their expenses were paid. Also who Mr. William Bull was. WREXHAMITE.

[On Sep. 26, 1877, we recorded another peal rung by the Union Society on the bells of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury; called "Bob Maximus," (5016 changes in 3h. 42m.,) which was performed on Aug. 4, 1801. This was said to be "the first of that method completed on those bells."]

CURRENT NOTES.

"THE SEVEN WHISTLERS."

About eleven o'clock on Friday night, I heard from my house (in the outskirts of the town), a sound of shrill whistling, which I could not account for until the next morning when I was told that persons who happened to be out of doors heard a flock of birds whirling above the town and uttering shrill cries. I was then reminded of a similar occurrence in Northamptonshire, in 1871, and

as, perhaps, many of your readers may be unacquainted with the traditions respecting "The Seven Whistlers" I will give in short the popular superstition on the subject.

In many parts of the Midland counties to hear these night birds in their passage over the country is to feel sure that some great calamity will happen. No one seems to have settled the question as to what birds they are. In Lancashire it is supposed they are plovers, and they are called Wandering Jews, "who carry with them the ever-restless souls of Jews who took part in the Crucifixion." In other places they are believed not to be birds at all, but "the souls of the damned condemned to perpetual motion." In some places they are supposed to be swifts, but against this theory there is the fact that swifts don't fly by night; and, as I was reminded the other day, the swifts have already left us this year; so, at least, it could not have been these birds we heard on Friday night. The most probable supposition is that they are wigeons. Meyer, speaking of their migrations, says, "These journeys are generally performed during the night, at which time the birds fly at no great elevation, and may easily be known by their continued whistling."

In Sep. 1871, when the whistlers were heard in Northamptonshire, a lady friend of mine recorded the fact in *Notes and Queries*, and stated that her servant told her, as he was driving her out the next day, that the last time he heard it was the night before the great Hartley colliery explosion. "Curiously enough," the lady goes on to say, "on taking up the newspaper the following morning I saw headed in large letters 'Terrible Colliery Explosion at Wigan!'"

Miners, I am told, will never go down the pits on the day after "The Seven Whistlers" are heard, and when they are heard their noises are by no means confined to one locality. How far was the Whistling heard last Friday night? Records in your columns would be interesting.

JARCO.

Oswestry, Aug. 25.

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION. MEETING AT LAMPETER.

There can, perhaps, in some respects, be no richer district in the whole of Wales to the archaeologist than that which lies between Aberystwyth and the upper boundary of the county of Carmarthen, and which was selected for the thirty-third annual meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association, at Lampeter last week. From time immemorial it has been the scene of struggles for possession of the soil, of Roman battles and enterprise, and of events so dim on the page of history that many of the accounts have been handed down to the present generation more in the garb of the stories in the *Mabinogion* than in that of sober relation. Without going many miles from their head-quarters, Lampeter, the members of the association met with many antiquities which, up to the present time, have not had attached to them any certain "local habitation and a name."

The meeting of the members on Monday evening, the first of the series, was of a private character. The inaugural address was postponed until the following evening.

On Tuesday the members drove to Dolau Cothi, the residence of the late Mr. Jones, and first of all inspected the Roman baths on the Ynysau Uchaf farm, and afterwards the antiquities preserved at Dolau Cothi. The stone with the five marks on it, which tradition says is the mark of the heads of five saints battered on to it by a thunderstorm sent by the Devil, was also seen, and the statement was made that the indentations were more likely made by the pounding of the gold quartz by the

Romans. After visiting the Roman mills, Sarn Helen, Cafo Church, and its inscribed stone, "Regin Filius Noventi," and other places of interest, the party returned to Lampeter.

At eight o'clock a meeting was held in St. David's College Hall, to hear the inaugural address delivered by the Chairman for the year, the Bishop of St. David's, a well-known antiquarian. His lordship having referred to the distinction which he had received in having twice filled the office of president, and to the desirableness of establishing an antiquarian society, of which Lampeter might be the nucleus, said, except as regarded the Abbey of Strata Florida, visited from Aberystwyth in 1847, the upper valley of the Teify was virgin soil, and it was impossible to say what their excursions might not bring to light. He would give the meeting a general summary of the main antiquities of the county, divided into classes. First of all he would speak of primeval antiquities. In some respects Cardiganshire was rich in these, in other respects poor. He could not call to mind the existence of a single cromlech. In northern and western Pembrokeshire, on the one hand, and in western Merionethshire on the other, this class of remains was numerous. In Cardiganshire there were, if any, very few. Meini hirion existed, and a few remains of circles. The cist and the barrow were not uncommon, but he did not know that any had been scientifically explored. Of all the antiquities of early and uncertain age, camps were the most abundant. The hill-tops were crowned with them, and they frowned over the sea from the summits of the cliffs. He would mention certain phenomena which, though strictly antiquities, were not antiquities in the sense of shewing traces of man's hand. Still they were mixed up with and must have had their share in determining the form of certain of their legendary stories. The shallow shores of Cardigan Bay threw off a series of parallel reefs extending for many miles in a south-westerly direction. Two of these sprang from the Merionethshire coast, Sarn Badrig, and Sarn-y-Bwch, two from that of Cardiganshire, Sarn Cynfelyn, with Caer Gwyddno at its head, and the insignificant Sarn Cadwgan. The imagination of early ages fixed upon them a name implying a belief in their artificial origin, and the remains of a submarine forest, still visible near Borth, lent a colour to this belief. Hence, in part, the tradition of the lost Cantref y Gwaelod, and the romantic stories of Gwyddno, Elphin, and Taliesin. Much of this was doubtless a portion of the common heritage of Aryan mythology, especially the legend of the submerged country, which re-appears in many parts of the world. With regard to Roman remains, there were traces in the district, but they were not deeply marked. It was evident that one of the great highways passed up the higher portion of the Lampeter Valley, and across the mountain to Llandovery. It was to be traced in various points, and even where there was no visible track traditional recollections of it survived in local nomenclature. The name of Sarn Helen, found nearly all over Wales, indicated a Roman road. Indeed the word "Sarn" he held to be an indication of such a road, just as the elements "street," "stret," and "strat," when they appear in English names of places. He thought that a good deal was yet to be done in tracing this road, or system of roads, from Carmarthen and Llandovery on the one hand, to the fords of the Dyfi on the other. The south-western parts of Wales were peculiarly rich in sculpture and inscribed stones, with and without Oghams. It was a class of antiquities of peculiar interest, for in those rude monuments they had the only material remains of an age concerning which we know very little, and would desire to know more—the period which immediately succeeded the withdrawal of direct Roman

influence, and which contained the first dawn of the mediæval system. This was the age of our great Celtic saints, and of the sanctuaries which still preserve the names of Mynyw, of Llanbadarn, of Llanddaff. It was the age of frequent intercommunion in sacred and secular matters between different Celtic countries. These stones naturally led their thoughts to the ecclesiastical antiquities of the middle ages—the monasteries and parish churches. Few counties were so poor in such monuments as Cardiganshire. Yet it possessed not less than three conventual foundations, and one of collegiate character, besides the great church of Llanbadarn Fawr, which it was difficult to assign to its proper ecclesiastical position. Of the monasteries, Strata Florida was the greatest and most famous, and, doubtless, its church was the most important ecclesiastical edifice in the county. The other monastic institutions of the county were Llanllyr, which had utterly perished, and Cardigan Priory. The Parish Church of St. Mary, at Cardigan, seemed to have served as the Church of the Priory. There was now not the faintest tone of the minster about it. There was, besides the conventual institutions already enumerated, a College of Secular Canons at Llanddewi Brefi. It was extremely difficult in these days to get people to understand that a college was not necessarily a place of education. The college established by Bishop Beck, at Llanddewi Brevi, was merely a body of clergy, not monastic, but associated together mainly for the performance of liturgical duties. Referring to the notion of a college being necessarily a place of education, his lordship said an excellent clergyman of the diocese had written to him to the effect that at the Reformation a collegiate institution was established at Brecon, instead of the Popish monastic establishment which had previously existed at Abergwili. The truth was that the establishment at Abergwili was not monastic, that the colleges at Abergwili and at Brecon were colleges in exactly the same sense, neither of them being strictly educational, and that the college at Brecon, for fifteen or sixteen years after its foundation, was what his (the Bishop's) correspondent would have considered extremely Popish. The college at Llanddewi Brevi was a college in the same sense, not educational at all, or, if it was, only in a secondary sense. But his good predecessor Bishop Burgess, to whom the diocese lay under a deep debt of gratitude, as for much else, so for his self-denying exertions in the promotion of St. David's College, Lampeter, originally intended to establish his seminary at Llanddewi Brevi under the notion that he was only reviving the good work of his predecessor, Thomas Beck. It was a great mercy that he did not carry his intention into effect. He would add that if the designs for the College of Llanddewi Brevi had been carried out, Cardiganshire would have had to boast of the possession of the ugliest buildings in the kingdom. They now came to the greatest existing church in the county, the third in the diocese—the great sanctuary of Llanbadarn Fawr, near Aberystwyth. Well-attested tradition pointed to Llanbadarn as an early Celtic monastery and episcopal see. In the century after the present church was built, if not earlier, the ancient monastic foundation must have been swept away, and the rectory of Llanbadarn was appropriated to the Abbey of Vale Royal. The class of parish churches in which England was so rich, and of which many very interesting specimens were to be found in other parts of Wales, was not at all well represented in Cardigan. Having dealt at great length with the various churches of Cardiganshire, his lordship proceeded to refer to the military antiquities of the county. Military antiquities, he said, were more conspicuous, and attracted

more general interest than any other remains of the middle ages. In monuments of this kind, South Wales was peculiarly rich. From the mouth of the Wye to Milford Haven there was a chain of castles, some among them being of the first rank. Few were to be found in any part of the kingdom capable of being brought into comparison with Pembroke or Caerphilly. In this respect, however, the county of Cardigan could not compare with the adjoining counties of Pembroke and Carmarthen. Of only two mediæval castles was there a stone left, and neither of those were of the first rank, and their remains were inconsiderable. He spoke of Aberystwyth and Cardigan. History or tradition, however, revealed the existence of castles at Lampeter, Coedmore, Ystradmeurig, and Castell Gwalter, at Llanfihangel Gneu'r Glyn. They also read of a castle at Aberdovey. His Lordship also mentioned other castles. He then referred to the domestic antiquities, in which the county was singularly poor, and passed on to give some timely suggestions. A region like that, until of late rarely traversed by strangers, and still containing districts as remote as anything in South Britain, should, he considered, be a stronghold for folklore. It was of great importance to lose no time in recording and fixing that which was so fleeting and transient as local tradition. If they did not do so now railways and elementary schools would make short work of it. If, indeed, the Manchester and Milford Railway Company should shortly fulfil its promise of forming a direct connection between the greatest manufacturing town and the greatest natural harbour in Europe, they might expect a clean sweep of venerable beliefs in that neighbourhood, but as far as this danger was concerned it seemed to him that the fairies and witches need not tremble yet. (Laughter.)

The SECRETARY, the Rev. D. R. Thomas, read the following report:—

In holding at Lampeter its thirty-third annual meeting, and its third within the county of Cardigan, the Cambrian Archeological Association has much satisfaction in comparing its present position with its first tentative efforts at Aberystwyth thirty-one years ago. It is further happy in having St. David's College as its centre from which to carry out its explorations in a district but little known to the present generation of its members, yet abounding in remains of antiquity, British, Roman and Mediæval, Civil and Ecclesiastical. It is happier still in honouring once more as its president in his native county, one who has done so much for the history of the Cathedral of the diocese over which he so worthily watches, and it trusts that the example which he has himself given in this respect may be followed as to the history of this county by some patriotic scholar, who may have the means, the requirements, and the opportunities of carrying out what Sir Samuel Rush Meyrick in his day made some step towards effecting. Towards such an object the pages of the *Archæologia Cambrensis* contains no little or unimportant materials, and it is hoped that the result of this present meeting will be to add largely to that store. Within the last winter months several publications have been issued by members of the Association, and others are far advanced, bearing closely upon the antiquities of the Principality. Among these may be enumerated in the first place the completion of the *Celtic Remains*, which Mr. Lewis Morris left in MS., and which the Association has now to cordially thank Mr. Silvan Evans for the laborious office of having edited in its behalf. Another work full of value, as illustrating our early Christian art and literature, is that which the Professor of Zoology at Oxford is publishing on the *Sculptured Stones of Wales*, the second part of which is now ready for issue to subscribers. Closely allied to this again is the new edition of the *Lectures on Welsh Philology* by another professor in the same University and a zealous student of our stone inscriptions. Canon Williams, of Rhydyroesau, another of our members, has completed the issue of the *Saint Greal*, and is engaged upon the *Gests of Charlemagne* as a further contribution from the rich stores of the Hengwrt Library (at Peniarth) to his linguistic idioms and the legendary lore of our middle age. The Vicar of Llangadock has also contributed such a prefatory in-

stalment of his *History of Gower* that we look forward to the rest of his work on that interesting peninsula. Among other publications in progress we may name only *The Diary of Peter Roberts*, a MS. of great interest to the antiquarians and genealogists of Denbighshire and Flintshire, upon which Mr. Breese is engaged; the *History of the Gynidr Family*, a scarce work which Mr. Askew Roberts, of Oswestry, is reproducing in a revised and enlarged form; and to the *Tales and Sketches of Wales*, which Mr. Williams, of Merthyr, is preparing for the press. Under these circumstances it may seem strange that the issue of the journal should often have been delayed from simple want of material, and the editor requests, while thanking those members whose names are familiar for their generous help to its pages, to appeal to those other members who have not yet done so to contribute of their stores to his wants, for so only can anything like punctuality be secured for the issue of the numbers.

After the report had been read, Professors Westwood, Babington, and Rhys gave their impressions of the day's doings, and the meeting separated.

On Wednesday an excursion was made to Llanwnen Church. Here the chief object of interest was the crucifixion stone in one of the angles; unfortunately much injured by the mason who fixed it in its present position. This was stated by Mr. Babington to be a representation of Our Lord with S. Mary and S. John. The next point of interest was the stone of Trenacatus, and Mr. Rhys read the oghams as commemorative of someone of that family. A short halt was made at Castell Essen, after which the party passed on to Llanybyther, the church of which is noteworthy as having a 14th century tower originally detached. Then a portion of Sarn Helen was inspected, and then the British (?) Camp of Pen-y-gaer. To add variety—always charming—to the day's attractions, the party next partook of lunch at the hospitable mansion of Col. Evans. This over, they visited the Crug-y-wil tumulus, Llanllwni Church, and Llanfihangel. Here the party were reminded of a subject not archaeological, the fasting-girl, whose case was the object of so much attention during the "silly-season" a few years ago. Rubbings were taken of the inscription "Uleagnus fils Senomagni" on a stone, dear to antiquaries, at the rear of the Church. Tea at Mrs. Lloyd's, a peep at Llanllwni Church, and a short halt at the one of Llanwenog completed the work of the day. Here rubbings were taken of a coat of arms, which was the matter for discussion, and bids fair to be the subject of a paper by the Editor.

A meeting was held in the evening, Mr. Babington in the chair, when papers were read by Messrs. Banks, Thomas, Williams, &c. One on Phantom Funerals, and other Folk Lore concerning death superstitions, by Mr. Edmunds, elicited, as may be supposed, supplementary stories from those present, and this was followed by an interesting paper on names of places in the district, by Mr. B. Williams (Gwynionydd).

Thursday was devoted to Ystrad Meirig and Strata Florida; but it was felt that the party had lost its right arm in the departure of the Bishop, who had brought his great learning to bear in the solution of difficulties, whilst his bonhomie made every member present feel he was a man and a brother.

The meeting was brought to a close on Friday, Aug. 23. In every sense it has been most successful, and, apart from the value of the antiquarian researches which have been made, the hospitality displayed by the people of Cardiganshire to the Association will be a feature that will long be remembered in connection with the session of 1878. It has been arranged that the meeting of the Association next year shall be held at Welshpool.

While some of the members, including Professors Barnwell and Rhys, had taken their departure, the last carriage

excursion on Friday was made up of a snug and compact party. The direction taken was due east, through the pretty valleys of the Aeron and the Teivi. The first stop was made at Silian Church, a neat little structure, with its bell turret, restored in 1873. There are several old stones and monuments of interest to antiquarians. Colonel Lewes's seat at Llanllyr was reached in due course, and here Mrs. Lewes had thoughtfully prepared a bountiful luncheon; but, owing to their recent breakfast and the fact that Mr. J. E. Rogers, of Abermeurig, would have a repast waiting for them later in the day, the Archæologists did not partake of the good things, and contented themselves with an expression of gratitude to the family of Colonel Lewes. The residence of this gentleman is situated in a neighbourhood which has been the scene of important events in past times. There is the site of a Nunnery, and near by leaden coffins and skeletons have been found, with silver coins current in the time of Edw. VI. A large stone discovered in the house of Col. Lewes is very profusely inscribed, and rubbings of it were taken by the Rev. D. R. Thomas. Trefilan Church was next visited. Trefilan is a double church, and from books which were shown by the Rev. J. Griffiths it was ascertained that at one time there was a library in connection with it. A run was then made to the residence of Mr. Rogers, where a sumptuous repast was done full justice to, and afterwards, on the proposal of Mr. Thomas, which was seconded by the Rev. D. H. Davies, of Cennarth Vicarage, Llandyssul, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Rogers.

Man and horse having been refreshed, another start was made, and after a drive through a most interesting country, Bettws Lleici Church was passed and a stop made at Llangeitho, a village the former associations of which have an especial interest to Welsh people. It was here that the Rev. Daniel Rowlands, who is known as the Father of the great Welsh Revival, pursued his ministry. The Archæologists went over the church and inspected the tombstone of the Rev. Daniel Rowlands, which is inscribed as follows:—"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Daniel Rowlands, who departed this life on the 16th day of October, 1790, in the 79th year of his age. The memory of the just is blessed." Underneath are the names of his wife, who died in her 79th year, and Jennet, aged 10, who died in 1784, the daughter of John Rowlands, then the rector of the parish. The spot where the Rev. Daniel Rowlands preached to the people in the churchyard, and the chapel in which he preached after his inhibition by the bishop, were pointed out. It is stated that at one time he served as curate under his son. In the interior of the church is a stone bearing the names of members of the Rowland family, and dated 1680. On one of the tombstones, dated 1762, placed on the outer wall, are the following lines:—

Remember Lord our mortal state;
How frail our life, how short the date.
Where is the man that draws his breath
Safe from disease, secure from death?

The next place on the programme was Llanddewi, where the Archæologists visited the Church, which was considered the finest of the many visited during the week. It is of cruciform, and with the high, broad, and commanding Norman tower, is a most prominent edifice. The tower itself has the appearance of an imposing castle. In the time of Bishop Beck an ecclesiastical college existed at Llanddewi. Nothing now remains of it, but some time back, when a grave was being made, the digger came across a path which led from the college to the church. In the church there is a chalice bearing the date of 1574. There are several in the churches of the neighbourhood,

and all are dated the same year. There are some curious legends related of the Llanddewi Church. It is said that St. David was preaching to a congregation in the churchyard, and that the Saint, not being sufficiently high to view the whole of his listeners, the ground gradually rose to the required position, and that the spot where the Saint stood is now marked by a large inscribed stone placed on an elevated spot. Another story is that while St. David was preaching, a nightingale, perched on a tree, commenced to sing, and called away the attention of the congregation, whereupon St. David uttered a curse upon it, and that ever since a nightingale has never been seen in Wales. The tale goes that repeated attempts were made to build a church at Godrefarth, near by, but the walls fell down as quickly as they were built, and it was not till the present site was fixed upon that a church could be erected. There is a saying that in the building of the tower two oxen brought the stones from the Voelallt Rock. One of them died, and the other, lamenting his dead companion, lowed nine times, and the rock at once was shattered, and thereafter no difficulty was experienced in fetching the stones for the tower.

Llanddewi Brefi Craith,
Lie brevodd yr ych naw gwaith,
Hyd nes holltodd Craig y Voelallt.

There is a tradition that at an ecclesiastical synod held at Llanddewi Saint David was requested to appeal to the audience to oppose the Pelagian heresy.

In the return journey a call was made at Leventium, a Roman encampment. As Professor Edmondson remarked, it would be rather surprising if the Archæologists went through their explorations without being subjected to some hoax or other. As the party were driving through a parish not many miles from Lampeter, the Rector made an important statement that on the road was a valuable old stone, so precious, indeed, that the Bishop of St. David's had made a request that it should be forwarded to him. Of course, such a communication raised the curiosity of the Cambrians to a very high tension. An active search was instituted for the stone, which at last was found under a hedge. To the dismay of everybody, when the inscription upon it was read by Professor Edmondson, it was ascertained that it was an ordinary milestone acquainting the weary traveller how many miles it was from that spot to Lampeter. Of course this ludicrous incident caused much merriment, and it was in a very happy frame of mind that the Archæologists alighted from the carriages at the Black Lion Hotel, having brought to a fitting close the week's outing.

A small contingent spent the day taking rubbings of stones in another neighbourhood. There was a temporary local museum of antiquities, objects of art, coins, manuscripts, &c., held in the College Hall, during the week, the Rev. D. H. Davies, of Cennarth Vicarage, being the curator.

STRAY NOTES.

THE WELCH EMBASSADOR.—The cuckoo is called by this name in Middleton's "A Trick to Catch the Old One," Act 4, s. 5. Dampet says, "Why thou rogue of universality, do I not know thee? Thy sound is like the cuckoo, the Welch Ambassador."

KATERFELTO. — This notorious mountebank, who flourished (exceedingly) in the second half of the last century, and was considered worthy a couplet by Cowper in his *Task*, is said to have come to grief at Shrewsbury, towards the end of his career. Chambers's *Book of Days* (vol. 1, p. 510) has it that Katerfelto "was committed by the Mayor of Shrewsbury to the house of correction in that city (sic) as a vagrant and impostor." No date is given, nor has any account of the proceedings been preserved.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1878.

NOTES.

DAME SYDNEY WYNN.—The following letter is from an autograph formerly in the possession of Maurice Wynne, LL.D., Rector of Bangor Iscoed. The writer was wife of Sir John Wynn, and daughter of Sir William Gerard, Lord Chancellor of Ireland, to whom there is a monument in St. Oswald's Church within the Cathedral of Chester.* The letter is addressed to Sir Richard Wynn, Knight; by birth, second son of Sir John, but the elder son John, who was also a Knight, died without issue, at Lucca, and Richard succeeded to the Baronetcy. He was Groom of the Bed-chamber to Charles Prince of Wales, afterwards King Charles I., and accompanied him and Buckingham, in the Prince's matrimonial expedition to Spain in 1623. Sir Richard wrote an account of that expedition, which is published in Hearne's *Historia Vitæ et Regni Recardi II.*, Vol. 1, page 297.

Good Sonne Richard,

I am glad to hear of yor safe retourne out of Spayne, and that yow have yor health well (whc god continue) for I much feared the same, and prayed very heartily for you. Thus having nothing els to write vnto you but my best wishes and Loue vnto my Daughter yor Wife recomended, with my prayers to God to blesse you, I rest

Gwydder June 16
1623.

To my very Louing Sonne Sr Richard Wynn, Kt.

Yor Louing Mother,
SYDNEY WYNN.

W.

* Here lieth the body of Sir William Gerrard, knight, lord Chancellor of Ireland, one of her Majestys most honorable council in the Marches of Wales, justice of assize within the counties of Glamorgan, Brecknock, and Radnor, one of her Majesty's Masters of requests, and late Recorder of this city; who deceased the first day of May, anno Dom. 1581; leaving Dame Dorothy, one of the daughters of Andrew Barton, of Smythels, in the county of Lancaster, esq. and by her two sons and four daughters.

Σωματα γαλα κρατει και πνευματα ουρανος αυτος,
Φημην της αρετης εις τοπος ουδε χει.

Σωμα Γεραρδε τεον γη, υπερτατα δωμαι

Την ψυχην ληβει, παντοτε φημη ολυμπου αγει.

Eadem Latine reddita.

Corpora terra tenet, tenet æthera lumina vitæ,
Famam virtutis non locus unus habet,
Terra, Gerarde, tuum corpus tenet, æthera, mentem,
Virtutis nomen regnat ubique tuum.

(Ormerod's *Cheshire*, vol. I., page 167.)

SIR ROGER WILLIAMS, KNIGHT.—In the Harleian MS. No. 6395, No. 357, entitled *Merry Passages and Jestes*, compiled by Sir Nicholas Lestrangle, printed in Thoms' *Anecdotes and Traditions*, 1839, is the following anecdote, which *Bye-gones* perhaps may not refuse to reproduce:—

Sir Roger Williams (who was a Welchman, and but a taylour at first, though afterwards a very brave soldier), being gracious with Queen Elizabeth, prefer'd a sute to her, which she thought not fitt to grant; but he, impatient of a repulse, resolv'd to give another assault; so, coming one day to court, makes his addresse to the Queene, and watching his time, when she was free and pleasant, begane to move againe: she perceived it at the instant, and observing a new payre of boots on his leggs, clapps her hand to her nose and cries, "Fah, Williams, I pry-the begone, thy bootes stinke!" "Tut, tut, Madame," sayes he, "his my sute that stinkes."

To this savoury anecdote Mr. Thoms appends the under-mentioned particulars about Sir Roger:—"The following account of this valiant Welshman appears in Camden's *History of Queen Elizabeth*, p. 507, ed. 1675: 'In the same month (Decr., 1595) departed this life Sir Roger Williams,

Knight, a Welshman, of the family of Penross in Monmouthshire, who first was a souldier of fortune, under the Duke of Alva; and afterwards, having happily run through all the parts of military discipline, might have been compared with the most famous captains of the age, could he have tempered the heat of his warlike spirit with more wariness and prudent discretion. In this certainly he excelled many, that, a rude and unlearned man, and only taught by experience, he wrote with exquisite judgment the History of the Low Country Wars, at which he was present; and in an excellent book hath maintained the military art now practised, and in use, before that of former ages, not at all pleasing thereby the old souldiers and lovers of archery. At his funeral in St. Paul's Church, the Earl of Essex was present in mourning, and as many military officers as were then in the city."

"The books mentioned by Camden, as written by Sir Roger Williams, are: 'A Brief Discourse of Warre, written by Sir Roger Williams, Knight, with his opinion concerning some parts of the Martial Discipline,' London, 1590, 4to; and 'The Actions of the Low Countries,' London, 1618, 4to."

T. HUGHES,

Chester.

QUERIES.

THE LEGEND OF THE SEVERN.—The Rev. MACKENZIE E. C. WALCOTT, writing to the *Shrewsbury Journal* "Shreds and Patches" column says:—

Salmon, in his *Survey of England*, Salop p. 676, says an old poem, which is talked of in Wales, describes the fountains of the Severn, the Wye, and the Reydal, rising on Plinlimmon. These are called Three Sisters, who agreed to make a visit to the sea in the morning. Severn rose up very early, and took compass through Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Gloucestershire. Wye rose later, and took her journey through the counties of Radnor and Hereford, falling in with her sister near Chepstow, and went hand in hand to the ocean. Reydal indulged her dreams and lay so late that she was forced to take the nearest road to Aberystwith.

Can any of your correspondents refer me to the poem in question, or give some extracts from it for the benefit of your readers? G.G.

HAIR POWDER TAX.—In 1798 Mrs. Mary Hall, of Oswestry, was authorized to issue Hair Powder Certificates. Who was Mrs. Mary Hall? In 1794 the same lady was the party who supplied hat stamps.

TELL,

REPLIES.

THO: BOYCOTT (Mar. 20, 1878).—There were several references to this gentleman in *Bye-gones* towards the end of 1877, and on Dec. 12, I introduced one of my notices of "John Wesley's Preachers," as follows:—"Another of the preachers appointed by Wesley was Mr. John Oliver (no connection of the more celebrated Thomas Olivers) who, your readers may remember, has received some notice in Mr. Salisbury's interesting biographies, &c., &c." I perceive in his notice of Mr. Thomas Boycott (which has very recently appeared in your columns) Mr. Salisbury speaks of him as the persecutor of "Thomas Olivers, a celebrated preacher among the early Methodists." I send this that the error may be corrected. PURITAN.

CHARLES PINDAR (June 19, 1878).—The query put by LERTWEE, appeared in the *Cheshire Sheaf* on the 31st of July in the form of a reply to another query in that publication. In its turn it has elicited a reply which gives some information that may be useful to our correspondent, so we publish it below.

ED.

I send the following extract from a letter dated 1813, from Mr. Edmund Lodge, of the Herald's College:—

"It appears that the common ancestor of the PINDAR family was of Yorkshire about the time of Henry 8th, and that he had a son Thomas, who settled at Wellingborough, in Northamptonshire, from whom descended two sons: the elder founded a family at Bredhall and Duffield, in Derbyshire. From the second son of Thomas Pindar, of Wellingborough, descended the line of PINDARS of EDENSHAW of IDENSHAW, Cheshire, in which was the title of Baronet. SIR PETER, the first Baronet, was living in 1663; he was the father of Charles Pindar, who is buried at Llanymynech. Sir Peter was Collector of the Customs at Chester; he had two sons and three daughters. THOMAS, the eldest son, married Ann, daughter and heiress of Robert Wynne, of Nerquis, in the county of Flint, and died before his father in 1687, leaving a son, PAUL, and a daughter Dorothy."

The custody of the infant baronet was the cause of much dispute between his paternal and maternal relatives. His uncle, Charles Pindar on the former, and his uncle Edward Williams, of Pontygwyddel, on the latter side were finally appointed by the Chancery Commissioners. Sir Paul died unmarried at the age of 23 or 24, and in him the male line of the Edenshaw family of Pindar became extinct.

I find the name of THOMAS JONES among those who had the charge of Sir Paul's estate on the maternal side while he was an infant; and in his Will there is a passage directing his executors to prosecute the Chancery suit against his cousin George Weld, and his cousin Thomas Jones. Whether this is Sir Thomas Jones, of Carreghova, I have no further clue to decide—there is, however, good reason for supposing it might be.

The celebrated Sir Paul Pindar, the great merchant, renowned for his learning, riches, and princely charities, in the time of Charles 1st, belonged to this family: for an account of him, see Pennant's *London*, page 450.—ERYL.

LORD MAYOR SWINNERTON (July 17, 1878). I stated that John Swinnerton was Lord Mayor of London in 1611, and that he was son of Thomas Swinnerton (according to Price's *History of Oswestry*). In our Corporation records of the time of Elizabeth we have the following entry respecting the family, in which, it may be, the "John Swynarton" mentioned is the future Lord Mayor; although the Histories give the father's name as Thomas.

JARCO.

"Secundo die novembris Anno Anno Regni Dne. na'te Regni Elizabeth die gra. &c. Decimo nono.

"At wch daye John Swynarton sonne of Richard Swynarton lat of Oswester deceased appered before John Edwards and Robert price gent bayliffes of the said towne and the rest of the coburgensses their assembled And forasmuch as the name of Richard Swynarton aforesaid was not named nor entred in this present book of the names of the burgesses of this said towne And for that it was very well knowne & it did appear unto the said bayliffes burgesses that the said Richard father to John Swynarton was burges & free of this said towne the sayd John Swynarton was admytted & allowed burgess & free of the said towne & sworne together with Swynarton sonne and heir to the aforesaid John Swynarton And for further cert-tion thereof it was known to divers anncient consellmen & burgesses of the said towne the said Richard Swinarton was in his lyfe tyme Sergeant at mase of the said towne.

"John Edwards, } bayliffs of
Robert Pryse, } the said towne."

BALLOTING FOR THE MILITIA (Aug. 14, 1878).—On the 18th of July, 1803, the following address was circulated in Montgomeryshire:—

MONTGOMERYSHIRE MILITIA.

The Reverend the Clergy of the County of Montgomery, are requested immediately to explain to their Churchwardens, and through them to the Inhabitants of their Parishes at large, That the practice, so prevalent, of paying down £15 as a commutation for service in the Militia, is quite futile in itself; will be very burthensome to the parishes at large; and extremely detrimental to his Majesty's service; that this

payment will not exempt them from service in *The Additional Army of England*, which must be raised in a few days; it will exempt them from service in the Militia only for five years; and will not entitle them to the allowance of £4 from the parishes; and that every parish wherein a deficiency of only a *single man* shall happen, will, notwithstanding this payment of £15, be assessed by the Quarter Sessions in the penalty of £10 every three months, for *everyman* that shall be deficient in the quota appointed to be raised by such parish; so that it is quite certain, every deficiency will cost the parish £40 in the first year, and £40 MORE for every subsequent year till it be supplied. It is therefore perfectly clear, that the sooner the men are produced the lighter will be the burthen to the individuals, to the parishes, and to the county; and much more conducive to the public service.

THE MEN MUST BE HAD.

By order of his Majesty's Commissioners of Lieutenancy,

J. LLOYD JONES,

Clerk to the General Meetings.

Maesmawr, 18th July, 1803.

How far this "fetched them up" I cannot say. Jingoism seems to have been considerably subdued when the invasion of our shores was imminent. BLACKPOOL.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1878.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Aug. 28, 1878.)

xviii o daye Junij Anno R.R.

Ed vj secundo

Md. that this day at a leav' holden befor Thomas Lloyd and Richard Jones gent. baylyffs of this town of the said towne of Osestree and the coburgesses of the same towne the p'rsns under named now chosen and elected burgesses of the said towne.

Richard ap Edward ap gruff ap Ryneast' and John ap Richard his son send're this cons'dyr'on that he shall come and dwell in the same towne immediately after the first of mychelmas next come twoo y'res and in the fault th'rof the said Richard to be no burges and his said son.

Richard ap Ievan I and all his cheldren be mad burgesses legytemet.

John Wyllyam Taylor and all his cheldren legytemet.

John ap ho'll and nycholas his sons and all his cheldren legytemet.

Robert ap Thomas and all his cheldren legytemet

Receyved this day xxvli

David ap moris ap gruf goughe

3: maij 1582

Md. yt Robert Twisend [qy. Townsend?] gent: in october ye 23. Eliz: R: at an elleccoon or assembly of the then Bailiffs & burgess of the sayd towne was made freee he and all his chldrene legimat are burgesses of the towne of Oswestry

Th: Evance
Rich Will'ms
Thomas lloyd
John Edwards
hugh yale
Richard Stanley
Edd Edwards.

These p'rsns und'rnamed were sworne & made burgesses of this Towne of Oswestree the xxixth day of June Ao vijmo. Regni Elizabeth Elizabeth Regn' then being Baillyffe Thomas lloid and Evan Jones / et Ao Dmi 1563.

John Knottsford esquier } these three had
 Thomas Knottsford esquier } their freedom
 Edward Knottsford of Hordley esquier } given them.

Thomas Hamner / alias ap Richard

William Goughe

John Blodwell

Edward ap Harry

Thomas lloid ap Will'ms

John ap Ed. ap Edward

Richard Hewester (?)

Edward Willsby butcher

Will'm ap John alias Barker

Gruff' weaver

mered' ap Ed ap Edd, Glover

Will'm ap John / glover

Thomas ap Robert Baker

Wm lloid Sherman

John G'orge butcher

David ap Jeny'n

Thomas Lewes

Roger ap John butcher

William Piper

Evan ap Gruff butcher

John ap m'redd ap ho'll ap B'

Thomas Iveson / gratis

Will'm ap nicholas butcher

Evan ap Jo'n butcher

Gruff G'orge Sherman

Thomas Salysburie glover

Richard Salter

The xijth of July 1565 these
 p'rsn's subscribed now likewise
 elected and sworne burgenss.

John Kiffyn glov'r

Richard Miles

John ap Rees Vaughan

Roger Kinaston gent

Ffrauncis Smallman

Richard Jones th'yonger

Reynold Jones his brother

Edward lloid & Nicholas and Richard his
 two sonnes

John ap Owen alias lloid

Edward ap David joyner

Rob't ap Thomas

Richard Yveson

John Thomas tailor

Richard Phelix

Richard ap Richard barber

S'r Andrew Corbett Knyght

Will'm Leighton esquier.

QUERIES.

SIR ROBERT TOWNESHEND.—There is a monument to this Knight in Ludlow Church. He was Chief Justice of the Council of the Marches of Wales and Chester. He died in 1581. What relation did he bear to Sir Henry Towneshend, who was Recorder, and Sir John Towneshend, who was Steward, of the borough of Oswestry, in 1616?

FITZALAN.

SIGNBOARDS IN WALES.—Driving one day recently through Llandaff, I noticed a publichouse sign on which was painted a cow carefully examining a pair of snuffers; and some years ago at Carno, there was a house of entertainment called the "Merchant of Aleppo," but I forget how he was painted. In what did these signs originate?

W.R.

OSWALD'S WELL MAGAZINE.—You have had several references to this magazine, which was published by the late Mr. Samuel Roberts in 1847-8. In a copy I possess some one has written a list of the contributors, which include the following names:—Mr. Sabine, Carreg-llwyd; Mr. W. Whitridge Roberts, Bailey Head (editors); Mr. Shirley Brooks, London; Mr. Charles Minshall, Willow-street; Mr. J. Hubert Morris, Newtown; Mr. G. Rae, N. & S. W. Bank, Liverpool; Mr. J. Whitridge Davies, Cross-street; Rev. John Minshall, Prees; Mrs. May, Taunton; Mr. J. Askew Roberts, Taunton; Rev. J. J. Osborne, Carlisle; Miss Mary Davies; Mr. T. J. Ouseley; Mr. R. Richards; Mr. Isaac Hughes; Rev. G. Jones, Portsmouth; Mr. J. Jones, 338, Strand; Mr. S. Fitzgerald, Leg-street. Can any of your readers, or will you yourself, Mr. Editor, give me the key to the noms de plume attached to the articles? CURIOUS.

[All the parties mentioned were contributors, but some of them only wrote single articles. The chief writers were Messrs. Sabine, W. W. Roberts, S. Brooks, C. Minshall, and J. W. Davies. There are so few copies of the magazine extant that it is scarcely worth while to do as our correspondent wishes, but we shall be pleased to drop him a line some day with all the particulars.—Ed.]

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY GAOL IN 1803 (Aug. 21, 1878).—In Mr. Nield's report, given at this date, a brief reference was made to the lunatics confined here at the time of his visit. He says:—

The three lunatics, at the time of my visit in 1803, were in the felons' court-yard. One of them seemed melancholly, and made no reply; this man was not tethered. The second had shown signs of insanity, which was assigned to me as the reason for his confinement. He was young and hale, and conversed with me so very rationally, that I was induced to examine his breast-bone (which he shewed me), by opening his shirt-neck; it was red, and appeared to have been galled by the iron collar which encircled it, and was attached to a strong chain, about eight yards long. The next morning, after breakfasting with Mr. Lloyd, an active magistrate, he accompanied me back to the gaol, when the above collar was ordered to be taken off, and for this the poor young man was most warmly thankful.

The third maniac, Aaron Bywater, kept walking quickly about, backwards and forwards, as far as his chain-tether would permit; but there was something in his eyes so highly ferocious, that, being alone, I did not like to speak to him, or come within the length of his tether. . . . This pitiable man I was next day informed, had been heretofore committed on a charge of murder, but was acquitted at the Great Sessions as being insane; and since his confinement here had killed a fellow-prisoner, who was a convict for transportation, but, having received the King's pardon, was dressing himself to leave the gaol, when Bywater came behind, struck him a violent blow, and then despatched him.

Mr. Nield strongly condemns the practice of thus confining lunatics in common gaols, and suggests that a wing in the House of Industry near the town might be appropriated for the purpose. He next notices—

Montgomery House of Correction.—Keeper, H. Lloyd; salary £12 13s. 4d.; fees 2s. 6d. Garnish, not yet abolished, is one shilling. Surgeon, if wanted, is sent from the town. Prisoners, Sep. 8, 1803, two. Allowance, 4d. a day, in bread.

Remarks.—There is only one court-yard for all description of prisoners; with a dungeon 13ft. by 9ft. 3in., to which the descent is by nine steps, and within it a whipping-post. On the ground-floor are two middle-sized rooms, with four wooden bedsteads, and loose straw. Seven persons at a time had been confined in the dungeon, and as many also in the two rooms. The employment for the prisoners is spinning.

Mr. Nield concludes his letter with another reference to the confinement of lunatics, and expresses his satisfaction that public attention is aroused on the subject, and that asylums are being built in various parts of the country.

BLACKPOOL.

TEETOTAL REFRESHMENT HOUSES (July 24, 1878).—TELL quotes a ballad "printed at a highly-respectable local office" in 1838. I here give one, about the same date, which was not! It is entitled, "A Teetotal Song, by a Shropshire Collier (late a Tee-Totaler). To the old Chewn of *Gee O Dobbin*."

Success to the Farmer, the Plough, and the Flail,
He sends me good Barley, to make me strong Ale;
No longer I'll go to the TEE-TOTAL SHOP,
So farewell old *Sampson*, *Long Life*, and such SLOP.
Gee, O Dobbin, &c.

I've empty'd my Pockets too long with such Stuff,
And many more of it have had quite enough;
Thro' Slops which I've Guzzl'd, and eating of *Snacks*,
My Children and Wife have scarce Rags to their Backs.
Gee, O Dio, &c.

My body got weaker, (Oh, true is my Tale)
But now I'm reviving, by drinking good Ale;
It does me more good, and takes from me less Cash,
Than starving my Guts with the *Tee-total Trash*.
Gee, O Billy, &c.

Let those be Tee-totals, who do not like Work,
But gossip and cant, and from House to House lurk;
Who get the blind side of the Good and the Great,
For good lazy Jobs, and a Guts'-full of Meat.
Gee, O Dicky, &c.

If I don't like to drink, I'll let it alone;
And sure that is right, you will ev'ry one own;
But double-face Rascals get Drunk on the Sly,
And wearing of Medals, is just — ALL MY EYE.
Gee, O Lather, &c.

We'd plenty of Hypocrites long in the World,
But for a Batch more, a new Plan's been unfurl'd;
In Meetings and Marchings, with Banners and Flags,
And Lots of *Sly Tipplers* and *Gin Drinking Hags*.
Gee, O Molly, &c.

In the Tee-total Shops, some run "A *Long Score*,"
Yea, "Three Yards in Length" and a few inches more;
Like Tommy the Tippler's, who thought it no Sin,
To mix in his Paunch, Rum, Ale, Brandy, and Gin.
Gee, O Tummas, &c.

What PROVIDENCE sends us, let's not it abuse,
But thankful, and careful, such great Favours use;
No Medals or Ribbons, or Pledge Cards will save,
Tee-totalling Hypocrites in the cold Grave.
Gee, O Robin, &c.

Vain Passports are those to guide them through Life;
Vain *Baubles* of Men, which have caus'd so much strife;
Then long Life to our QUEEN who reigns o'er us now,
And Success to all Trades, the Farmer and Plough.
Gee, O Dobbin, &c.

Richard Minshall, Printer, King's Arms, Oswestry, 1d. Where may be had a second Edition of the Cats' TRAGEDY, 1d.

I will leave it for someone older and better informed than myself to explain the allusions. FITZOSWALD.

STRAY NOTES.

A NIMBLE SALOPIAN.—On Aug. 23, 1830, one J. Sayer, jun., performed the astonishing feat of running up the staircase of Lord Hill's Column, Shrewsbury, consisting of 172 steps, in the short space of 28½ seconds.

AN AWKWARD POSITION.—In November, 1816, Mr. Brassey, of Churchton Heath, Cheshire, was attacked by one of his bulls when riding on horseback near his house. The bull attempted to toss both horse and rider, and "actually raised them both from the ground." The horse was killed by the horns of the bull, but Mr. Brassey escaped with only a few bruises.

XXXX.

A TEXT FOR TEETOTALERS.—In Jan. 1805 there died at Bridgnorth, in his 80th year, Mr. Owen Davies, chair-maker; who had spent more than £600 in one public house in that town in the course of forty years, though he was seldom known to spend more than one shilling in any one day.

FOX-HUNTING EXTRAORDINARY.—Several gentlemen out hunting near Wellington, Salop, on Jan. 1, 1759, unkenneled and pursued a fox as far as Clee Hill, near Ludlow, "upon which hill are a number of coal pits, so that travellers are obliged to use much caution in some parts of the hill, for fear of falling in." At the top the fox, nearly exhausted, with the hounds close to his heels, threw himself into one of the pits, followed by several of the dogs, five of which were killed. The pit was sixty yards deep, and the miners at work in it "were very much frightened at so unusual an affair."

A WELSH PRAYER BOOK.—In reply to a paragraph from the *Tablet*, [page 67] I believe that in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry* three copies of *Allwedd Paradwys* are stated to be extant. I have seen a fourth copy, the property of an old man residing at Llanllyfni by whom the book was much valued. This edition was a sixteenth century one. Miss Davies, of Penmaen-dovey, has one of the copies alluded to by Rowlands. L.J.

Rhyl.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY NEAR CONWAY.—Recently, whilst some men were engaged in digging the foundation for a cottage on the Caerhun estate, near Conway, an old Roman urn standing nearly two feet in height was unearthed. Unluckily, one of the men struck it with his pick, breaking a portion of the neck. A large quantity of human bones was found inside the vessel, which is now in the possession of Mr. H. T. Davies Griffith, the owner of the estate. An old Roman encampment existed in the vicinity, and from time to time interesting relics of a similar character have come to light, notably a shield, which, under the will of the previous owner of Caerhun, has passed into Mr. Gladstone's possession.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1878.

NOTES.

A WELSH FASTING GIRL.—The *Gents' Mag.* of June, 1813, records the death, in her 89th year, of Mary Thomas, who had been bedridden 35 years, "which circumstance made her an object of curiosity to travellers." She resided at Celynnin, near Dolgelly, and some account of her may be found in Pennant's *Tours*. "To the contributions of strangers she was in a great measure indebted for her support. During the last ten years of her life she took no other nourishment than a few spoonfuls of a weak liquid, and that but seldom. She retained her faculties unimpaired till the last hour." Pennant visited Mary Thomas in 1770, when she was 47 years old; she had then attained considerable notoriety, so she must have been bedridden and a "fasting woman" more than half a century. TAFFY.

[For another account of the same person, see *Bye-gones*, Dec. 5, 1877. Her death is there stated—on the authority of the *Annual Register*—to have taken place in 1812.—ED.]

CONWAY FERRY.—This must have been a great hindrance to Welsh travelling last, and early in this, century. In a note on Evans's Maps (May 8, 1878) there was an allusion to it, and in old newspapers and magazines one constantly meets with records of disaster at the perilous crossing. In the introductory chapter, "With the Wild Irishman," in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*,

some of these accidents are referred to, and in the *Gents' Mag*: of Oct., 1812, we are told that on Aug. 27 of that year, "Fourteen men belonging to Conway, went out in a small boat to finish the loading of a flat lying near Ormshead, bound with pavement flags for Liverpool. They left the vessel about 10 at night. Their cries were heard as if in great danger, but no assistance could be rendered to them. One loud yell was heard, after which there was universal silence. Next morning the boat was found, full of water, and drifted up the river. None of the bodies have been found." NEMO.

THE BIBLE IN WALES.—In the present age, when there is so much professed reverence for the Bible, that parties vie with each other in using it as an election cry, it is curious to note what a former generation said and did on the subject. In Dec. 1812 the *Gentleman's Magazine* reviews a collection of "Papers occasioned by attempts to form auxiliary Bible Societies in various parts of the Kingdom," in which is given a "Historical Sketch of the Controversy." Of the book as a whole this is not the place to speak; *Bye-gones* only takes cognizance of Wales and the Borders. Amongst the 'Papers' is one by the Bishop of London; (originally written in Jan. 1810) which "whilst stating his reasons against the formation of an Auxiliary Bible Society at Colchester, thus animadverts on the conduct of the *British and Foreign Bible Society*":—

This Society, it is further said, will secede upon any act of mal-administration in the British and Foreign Bible Society. They cannot find a reason for doing so, unless such an act be notorious and flagrant (which it is not likely to be for some time), and not even then with any advantage, if the dissenting part among them, or in the other Society to which they are an appendage, shall have gained the ascendancy. But, as I have said, I do not agree in this. The very first act of one of them, of the British and Foreign Bible Society, was to undertake a Welsh Bible, at the time when the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge in conjunction with the University of Oxford, were preparing as large an edition as could be wanted, under the patronage of the Welsh Bishops; and to put it into the hands of a most noted leader of the Dissenters in that country. And when put to shame on this head, they still persisted in forwarding their edition; an act, as it seems to me, of undue rivalry, by means which the University of Oxford could not take, in order to give an advantage to the Dissenters; for it is a fact, though it may seem improbable to you, that the very distribution of the Bible was made an instrument of influence to the Sectaries, who, in my opinion, have in that country done more injury to Society, and to sound Religion, than any thing that has happened for centuries before. I say these things from personal experience and knowledge.

It is but of little moment to readers of 1878 what the Bishop of 1810 thought, even if his "personal experience" did extend over a few centuries; the subject of interest to readers of the present day is the charge against the Bible Society in connection with the distribution of the Scriptures in Wales. Of course the attack by the Bishop was not allowed to pass. When the *Gents' Mag*: reviewed the "Papers," in Dec., 1812, it did not seem to be aware that a prompt reply had been published when the charge was first made; so "A Lover of Truth" in the issue of the magazine for March, 1813, quotes the reply of "the noble president of the Bible Society in a letter to the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth" written in April, 1810, as follows:—

Much misrepresentation has gone forth respecting the Welsh Bible printed by the Bible Society; and it has been stated, that it was printed from rivalry and opposition to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. This is denied; the first order for printing an edition of the Welsh scriptures, on account of the Bible Society, was dated on the 3rd of September, 1804; and the first intimation which the Committee of that Society received "that the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had come

to a resolution, at their last meeting, to print an edition of 20,000 Bibles," &c., was made, in the words of the quotation, by a member of both Societies, on the 18th March, 1805. The spirit of rivalry, in this case, must have been prophetic.

It is pretty evident from all this that the complaint on the part of the Bishop was not really so much that the Bible Society had issued their Welsh edition, as in the way in which they had issued it: it was not under the "patronage" of the Bishops! PURITAN.

QUERIES.

MR. AMBROSE PRICE OF DENBIGH.—The death of this gentleman is recorded in the *Gents' Mag*: of June 1813, and he is described as one "who came into possession of a large portion of the unbequeathed property of the late R. Jones, Esq., of Thames Street, and who, to his honour be it recorded, immediately settled the same upon his family, with the most decided liberality." What were the circumstances attending this case, that made Mr. Price's name one worthy of placing amongst the "obituary of Remarkable Persons" of the magazine? ANON.

BEDD Y CAWR.—Gwallter Mechain in his account of Llanymynech, published in the *Cambrian Register* for 1795, says, speaking of Llanymynech Hill, "On its eastern brow once stood a Cromlech, measuring seven feet by six, and about eighteen inches thick. It is called by the vulgar Bedd y Cawr; and it was the voice of immemorial tradition, that a giant had buried his wife under this stone, with a golden torque about her neck. This report caused three brothers who lived in the neighbourhood, some years back, to overturn the stone from its pedestals, in search of the treasure; in which position it now lies. Thus we see," adds Walter Davies, "how avarice stimulates men to deeds of villany, not even to spare, but sacrilegiously to overturn, the altars of the gods. The neighbours will tell you how this vile act did not escape the vengeance of heaven, but ended in the destruction of its perpetrators." Is the large stone still to be seen on the hill, and how shall I find it? And has the story of the tragic end of the brothers been handed down to this generation? N.W.S.

REPLIES.

OLD FOLKS (July 24, 1878).—"F.R." asks at this date what the letters "D.P." on a tablet in Shifnal—recording the death of the centenarian William Wakley—stand for. The Rev. J. Brooke explains them, in his article on Shifnal Church, in the third part of Vol. 1 of *Shrop. Arch. Society Transactions*, as "evidently denoting Daniel Piper, the Vicar, who died in 1727." ARGUS.

SHROPSHIRE INN SIGNS (Aug. 21, 1878).—The query propounded by "H.G." has caused me to look up what Larwood and Hotten say on the subject, and in doing so I have added a few remarks from other sources. "The Horns of Bonninghall" is, of course, a sign peculiar to Shropshire, but the only references, in the *History of Signboards* to "The Horns," are as follows:—

Not only the Deer tribe, themselves, but their *Horns* also, make a considerable figure on the Signboard. It is probably to the sign of The Horns that allusion is made in the roll of the Pardoner, *Coeke Lorell's Bote*:—

"Here is Maryone Marchauntes at Allgate
Her Husbode dwells at ye signe of ye Cokeldes Pate."

The Horns was a tavern of note in Fleet Street in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

Hone, in his *Every Day Book*, vol. 2, page 79, gives a picture by George Cruikshank, "Swearing on the Horns at Highgate," and adds an account of the ceremony, with the names of houses where horns were placed over the doors as additions to the signs. I noticed in *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, Ap. 25, 1877, a query about "Boxnigal" on the old London road, between Wolverhampton and Shifnal. The name, so spelt, was taken from *Britannia Depicta*, 1753. Doubtless this is the Bonninghall referred to by "H.G.," also spelt Bonningale in modern Directories. As regards the other sign inquired after; I find by Hotten's book, that "The Labour in Vain," in London, once gave a name to what is now Old Fish Street. According to Hatton's *New View of London*, 1708, the street was then known as "Old Fish Street, or Labour in Vain Hill." The lower classes called the sign "The Devil in a Tub;" and it was sometimes used on trades tokens. So much for the two enquired about, another week I will refer to other Salopian Signs, or signs having a Salopian origin.

D.

OSWESTRY TOLLS (May 15, 1878).—Extracts from the Corporation Book of Oswestry relative to the payment of tolls:—

Oswestry Towne. Att an Assmby holden by the Mayr Aldermen and Comon Counsell the sixth day of August, 1674.

It is voted and agreed yt all those fforayne townships whh doe claim their ancient priviledges and customes in beinge freed from paynge Towle by paying a penny affaire shall be assessed in such sume or sums as shall bee thought fitt and convenient by the Mayr Aldermen and comon Counsell.

Att an Assembly held the first day of Oct. att ye Excheqr Chamber by Richd Pope Esq Mayr and the Aldermen and comon Council

It is voted and fully agreed upon that the Mayr for the time beinge shall have the disposinge of the Towle of Oatemeale and othr small Towles for his one proper use and to bee collected by such officer that hee shall thinke fitt to imploy as heretofore the Bailieffs have had.

It is likewise voted and agreed upon att ye aforesaid Assembly that the Mayr for the time beinge shall have to his one prop use the benefitt of the wayinge woole and yearne. And also the standings belonginge to the Towne both in the streets and in the hall and the woole and yearn markett to bee at the Towne hall in Baylie Head.

It is likewise voted and agreed upon that the Mayr for the time beinge shall have the stollidge and Pilshenge to his owne proper use as heretofore the Bailieffs have had. It is likewise voted and agreed upon that the Mayr for the time beinge shall have the profitte and advantage of the disposinge of the office for the sealinge of leather as formerly the Bailieffs had.

6th Oct. 1682.

Ordered by the house that the Sergeants are to bee allowed two shillings per pound for gatheringe and leavynge the Tensery money. And the Tensery money to be settled by ye Mayr for ye time beinge and foure of the eldest aldermen or the majr part of them.

28th Aug. 1691.

At an Assembly then held of a full House of the Aldermen & Comon Counsell of this Corporation of Oswestry Thomas Powell esq Mayr being then present

That ye Earl of Craven is ye Lord of ye town & that the Toll yearly belongs to His Lordship We hope his lordship will not deny ye givinge of the toll when moved in it.

JARCO.

HAIR POWDER TAX. (Sep. 4, 1878).—In May 1795 the following persons in Montgomeryshire were deputed to grant certificates to those who used hair powder:—Oliver Jones, Welsh-Pool; Richard Griffiths, Llanfyllin; R. Oliver, Montgomery; Charles Jones, Newtown; Hugh Davies, Machynlleth; and Margaret Parry, Llanidloes. In Shropshire, besides Mrs. Mary Hall of Oswestry already mentioned, there were the following amongst others:—Messrs. Pridden and Whitfield, Ellesmere; Mr. James Wright, Whitechurch; Mr. W. Griffiths, Wem; and Mr. Home, Bishops Castle. S.J.

STRAY NOTES.

FOX'S WAGGON.—A correspondent says:—Your older Oswestry readers will remember the waggon that plied between Oswestry and Shrewsbury in pre-railway days, in connection with Crowley's vans between London and Shrewsbury. I have got a school copy-book, on the cover of which there is the picture of a waggon with "Fox" on it, purchased from an Oswestry stationer. The name is recorded in Price's *History of Oswestry*, in connection with a thunder-storm, which took place in 1778, on which occasion a servant-maid was killed by a flash as she nursed an infant son of "Mr. Fox, carrier." In the Shrewsbury newspapers of June, 1836, an accident is recorded, in which "Mr. Richard Fox, carrier," was knocked down by the wheels of his conveyance between Nescliff and Felton, by which his thigh-bone was shattered—the wheel passing over it. The report adds, "Several gentlemen of the first respectability in the neighbourhood have visited him since the accident, and evinced their regard for an eccentric 'Roadsman.'"

A WISE WOMAN OF WEM.—On my way from Wem to Hawkstone we passed a house, of which Mr. Lee told me the following occurrence:—A young lady, the daughter of the owner of the house, was addressed by a man, who, though agreeable to her, was disliked by her father. Of course he could not consent to their union, and she determined to elope. The night was fixed, the hour came, he placed the ladder to the window, and in a few minutes she was in his arms. They mounted a double horse, and were soon at some distance from the house. After a while the lady broke silence by saying—"Well, you see what a proof I have given you of my affection; I hope you will make me a good husband." He was a surly fellow, and gruffly answered—"Perhaps I may, and perhaps not." She made him no reply, but after a silence of some minutes she suddenly exclaimed—"Oh! what shall we do? I have left my money behind me in my room." "Then," said he, "we must go back and fetch it." They were soon again at the house, the ladder was again placed, the lady remounted, while the ill-natured lover waited below. But she delayed to come; so he gently called out, "Are you coming?" when she looked out of the window, and said—"Perhaps I may, perhaps not;" then shut down the window, and left him to return on the double horse alone.—*Dr. Raffles.*

AN EXECUTION AT CHESTER IN 1771.—The following extract from a letter from Chester, dated Sep. 7, 1771, appears in the *Annual Register* for that year:—"The following is an account of John Chapman, who was executed here for robbing Martha Hewitt, of this county. At the hour appointed he was conducted to the place of execution by a greater number of constables than usual, as there was some suspicion of a rescue by the vast concourse of sailors (he being one of that profession) that accompanied him. On his setting out, a book was put into his hand by the hangman, which he no sooner re-

ceived than he threw among his brother shipmates, as he termed them, and they immediately tore it in pieces; a clergyman then got into the cart, and exhorted him to behave with more decency, and to think of his sudden change, but instead of attending to his admonition, he got up in the cart, and (being pinioned) drove his head in the clergyman's belly, and tumbled him out of the cart: after this he flung himself out and attempted to run into the midst of the sailors, but was prevented by the irons with which he was loaded; he was then seized and tied by ropes in the cart, and in that manner was tied to the fatal tree; at his arrival there he refused either to hear prayers or to pray himself, therefore two men, together with the hangman, attempted to lift him up, to fix the rope about his neck, in doing of which, he by some means got the hangman's thumb in his mouth, which he almost separated from the hand; he was at last tied up, but with great difficulty.

A NEW SCRIPTURE READING.—The story goes that once upon a time a Local Preacher on the Borders of Wales, early in his ecclesiastical career was under the impression that the italic headings to the chapters ought to be read to the congregation as well as the text, and did not discover his error until he had tried his hand at the second chapter of Ephesians, which he commenced as follows:—"One by comparing what we were by three nature, with what we are five by grace: ten he declareth, that we are made for good works; and thirteen being brought near by Christ, should not live as eleven Gentiles, and twelve foreigners in times past, but as nineteen citizens with the saints, and the family of God."

CHARLES THE SECOND'S FLIGHT FROM WORCESTER.—In this column on July 24 (see page 69 of reprint of *Bye-gones*), we quoted from the *Bridgenorth Journal* a memorandum on the margin of an old book shown by Mr. Hubert Smith to the members of the Shropshire Archaeological Society, at Boscobel, on the 8th of July. The memorandum referred to the disguise of the King, and read as follows:—"W. Jones had Rv. pendrels green suit: hat (ye millar); martins shirt (white ladies)." In connection with this Mr. Hubert Smith has sent us the following remarks:—"The following solution I think may be given to the question as to who *William Jones* was who had 'Richard Pendrels green suit.' The memorandum appears as a marginal note on page 6 of a pamphlet entitled 'An Ignoramus founded upon the last Article of the Humble Presentment and desires of the Grand Jury of the County of Devon at Assizes, held at Exon, 26th March, 1661,' in which year the pamphlet was printed. The last Article alluded to, which occasioned the pamphlet, was as follows:—"That the laws may be put in execution against Popish Recusants who with the sectaries, are the most pernicious enemies, and subtil underminers of our religion, and by whom we believe our late unnatural wars were industriously fomented and Maintained." The pamphlet is vigorously written in terse language in defence of the Roman Catholics, and states they were loyal subjects and strong supporters of the King. Many arguments are used in their favour. At page 6, after mention of the personal devotion of Roman Catholics, amongst others Sir John Smith, who valiantly redeemed the King's standard royal, lost at 'Edge Hill,' the question is asked 'was not Mr. Gifford Huddleson, Whitegrave, and the Pendrels all Catholics who so faithfully and happily preserved our gracious King after the unfortunate battle of Worcester? Was not Col. Carlos a Catholic who secured him in the so much memoriz'd Royal Oak?' To the above paragraph there is

the following printed marginal note opposite—"see the book called *Boscobel*"—which is scored under, and then comes the note, in the handwriting of about that period, which has been before quoted, as to who had the green suit, hat, and shirt, and here we have, I believe, the clue as to who the Wm. Jones so mentioned was. The reader of the pamphlet evidently wished to show the loyalty of the Pendrels when he wrote the marginal note. I have not been able to find the name of William Jones in any pedigree of the Pendrel or Yates family, or of any relations. It is not probable that such valued heirlooms would be left or given to other than a relation. On reference to Blount's *Boscobel* I find, I believe, the answer in the fact that when the King disguised himself in Pendrel's green suit with hat and Martin's shirt to seek shelter in Wales, he assumed the Welsh name of "Will Jones." There is, therefore, scarcely any doubt that by the name Wm. Jones the writer of the note intended his Majesty the King.—*Oswestry Advertiser*.

THE REV. ROWLAND HILL.—During the summer of 1805 this celebrated Nonconformist minister, in the course of a tour through Wales, inoculated from the cow-pox upwards of one thousand of the poor, gratis, besides two thousand in other districts, without a single instance of failure.

FATALITY AT ST. WINEFRED'S WELL.—This celebrated spring is usually associated in people's minds with the healing of sicknesses, but it is recorded that on the 18th of Feb. 1806, a woman fell into it, and, in spite of every exertion, was drowned.

POETRY OF WALES AND THE BORDER.

PRESIDENT'S CHAIR, MENAI BRIDGE, AUGUST 8TH, 1878.

The close-ranked faces rise
With their watching eager eyes,
And the banners and the mottoes flare about;
And without on either hand,
The eternal mountains stand;
And the salt sea-river ebbs and flows again,
And thro' the thin-drawn bridge the wandering winds complain.
Here is the congress met,
The bardic senate set,
And young hearts flutter at the voice of fate;
All the fair August day
Song echoes, harpers play;
And on the unaccustomed ear the strange
Penillion rise and fall through change and counterchange.
Oh, Mona, land of song!
Oh, mother of Wales! how long
From thy dear shores an exile have I been!
Still, from thy lonely plains,
Ascend the old sweet strains,
And by the mine, or plough, or humble home,
The dreaming peasant hears diviner music come.
Th' innocent, peaceful strife,
This struggle to fuller life,
Is still the one delight of Cymric souls.
Swell blended rhythms! still
The gay pavilions fill!
Soar, oh young voices, resonant and fair!
Still let the sheathed sword gleam above the bardic chair!

* * * * *
The Menai ebbs and flows,
And the song-tide wanes and goes,
And the singers and the harp-players are dumb;
The eternal mountains rise
Like a cloud upon the skies,
And my heart is full of joy for the songs that are still,
The deep sea, and the soaring hills, and the steadfast Omnipotent will.

LEWIS MORRIS.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1878.

NOTES.

REGRATING AT OSWESTRY.—Reference to this, once, offence in the eye of the law, was made in some of the issues of *Bye-gones* for 1875. I have just met with a case of biter bit in the Oswestry district. On July 17, 1819, Richard Davies, a man employed by solicitors to serve processes, was charged by Charlotte Williams, a shopkeeper in the parish of Oswestry, with obtaining from her half-a-crown, to prevent his laying an information against her for selling potatoes at the Carn (sic) on the same day on which she had purchased them at Oswestry. The magistrate who heard the case was Mr. Parker of Sweeney, and he gave the fellow the option of three dozen lashes on his bare back in the prison passage, to return the money and pay expenses: or, to be prosecuted. Davies chose the former, and was "well-flogged."

JARCO.

QUERIES.

THE EZEKIELITES IN WALES.—The following is taken "from a Dublin paper" towards the end of 1813:—

Wales affords but few Catholics—a singular fact, of a race, in lesser points, obstinately wedded to ancient usage.—Wales which is separated from England only by hedges and streams, remains profoundly ignorant of the English language, and clings to her own, with all the jealousy of national pride. Yet Wales ceded her ancient Religion (without scruple or hesitation) to a people whose language she still disdains to understand. She drinks, with delicious rapture, of every stream that flows from English eccentricity; and neither the mummery of the Jumpers, nor the frenzy of the Ezekielites, renders the spiritual potion too muddy for the ardent and enthusiastic Welshmen.

The Jumpers was, I believe, a nickname once affixed on the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists: who were the Ezekielites?

R. ROSSE TEWK, B.A.

MADE UP HISTORY.—I have been reading a very pleasant volume entitled *Ancient and Modern Denbigh*, and therein I find the following historical announcement, upon the authority of "it is said."

In A.D. 1115, Denbigh is said to have been the scene of a sanguinary battle between Howel ap Ithel, Lord of Rhôs and Rhufoniog, and the sons of Howel ap Edwin, who were, it would seem, in possession of the Vale of Clwyd. The besiegers are supposed to have taken up their post near Goppy, at the top of Henllan-street, where the fight was sharp and cruel on both sides; until at length Ap Edwin's party, and their Norman confederates, the *De Lacy* bands of Chester, were put to flight. Howel ap Ithel was stabbed in the affray, and, in the course of seven weeks, died of the wound. Llywarch ap Owen ap Edwin, forwerth ap Meredith, and several other brave chiefs, fell in the same conflict.

Where is it so said? Are we to understand that the sons of Howel ap Edwin (whoever he may have been), were confederate *Welshmen*, who joined "the *De Lacy* bands of Chester" to rob their own countrymen of Denbigh, which protected the Vale of Clwyd? Nor am I at all satisfied with this *De Lacy* part of the story for I can find no reliable information that would lead me to conclude that any *De Lacy* possessed "bands" at Chester so early as 1115. You are fortunate in having among your contributors two gentlemen who know something of North Walian and Cheshire history—the Rev. Dr. James and Mr. Thomas Hughes, and I should much like to hear what they have to say upon the points I have mentioned.

And now that I am upon the subject of Welsh history, I should like to call Dr. James's attention to another little

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matter, that is somewhat darkened by writers:—*Llewelyn the Great* is said to have died in 1210, and *Llywelyn—Y Llyw Olaf*—does not appear to have commenced his reign till 1246, but Mr. Williams says:—

A.D. 1212, Pope Innocent the Third dispatched one of his nuncios to Wales, who absolved Prince Llewelyn, Gwenwynwyn, and Maelgwn from their oaths of allegiance to King John, and withal gave them a strict command, under the penalty of excommunication, to molest and annoy him with all their endeavours, as an open enemy to the Church. Llewelyn improves this favourable opportunity to secure his hold of Denbigh and the Four Cantreds.

What Prince Llewelyn could that be who in 1212 possessed "a hold of Denbigh and the Four Cantreds?" How did he acquire this particular part of North Wales? If any one can give me accepted authority for these statements I shall feel much obliged to him.

EDWIN DE LACY.

REPLIES.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY GAOL in 1803 (Sep. 11, 1878).—Under the above heading in your issue of Sep. 11, you gave a quotation from the report of Mr. Nield of his visit to the gaol, as I presume, a Government Inspector of Prisons, and in the above-mentioned year, stating that there were three lunatics confined in the felons' court yard. One of them seemed melancholy and made no reply, and was not tethered. The second had shown signs of insanity, which was assigned to him as the reason for his committal. He was young and hale, and conversed with Mr. N. so very rationally that he was induced to examine the iron collar and chain about eight yards long attached to it, and finding that the poor man's neck appeared to be galled by the collar he had an interview with the Rev. M. Lloyd, the rector of the parish, and a county magistrate, and on that gentleman accompanying him to the gaol, the collar was ordered to be taken off, "and for this the poor young man was most warmly thankful." Now, I was then about twelve years old, and if at the expiration of seventy-five years my memory has not like myself almost run out, I may say that I have a clear recollection of this person whose name, I believe, was Stephens, advanced in prime manhood and great muscular power. How long afterwards it happened I cannot call to mind; but, I believe, not many months after he took advantage of the proximity of the gaoler to knock him backwards into the cell, and would have succeeded in strangling him had not some of the other prisoners almost at the last moment effected his release.

Of Aaron Bywater, whom also I knew well by sight, Mr. Nield, after speaking of his personal appearance and demeanour, adds, "This pitiable man I was informed had been heretofore committed on a charge of murder, but was acquitted at the great sessions as being insane, and since his confinement here had killed a fellow prisoner, who was a convict for transportation; but having received the King's pardon was dressing himself to leave the gaol, when Bywater came behind him, struck him a violent blow, and then despatched him." This sad event happened some few years before Mr. Nield's visit, and when I was about ten years old, but I have a clear recollection of the circumstance. The murdered man was not a convict, but a debtornamed, I believe, Salisbury Davies, who being about to be released, on the evening before the day he expected his discharge, was chopping some wood for the purpose of cooking a supper with which he intended to treat the unfortunates he would leave behind. On stooping down to place the wood in a position for the purpose, Bywater snatched up the axe and clove the poor fellow's skull.

The then Lord Hereford, who resided at Nanteribba, and Mr. Herbert, of Dolforgan, near Kerry, and of which parish Bywater was a native, met together as magistrates the next day at Montgomery, and I was among the audience on their investigation of the case, and it was then that as a matter of course Bywater was transferred to the criminal side and tethered as Mr. Nield describes him to have been. Ultimately he was sent to Old Bedlem and then transferred to New Bedlem where he died about 15 years ago, having probably reached the age of 90 or thereabouts.

Some surprise may be excited by my statement, varying much as it does from Mr. Nield's report, and indeed it may create mistrust in my accuracy, which, however, may be tested by reference to whatever records are still in existence either as to the Borough Inquest, the Magisterial proceedings, and the Indictment at the Great Sessions, and if in any respect there should be any error in my statement it may be corrected, but I have been bold enough to make it in face of this report not only on the ground of establishing the truth, but also out of respect to the memory of their Worship, the highly-respected Magistrates to whose care and wisdom the above-mentioned cases were confided.

Mr. Nield having in the conclusion of this part of his report suggested that a wing in the House of Industry, which he describes as near the town, might be appropriated for the purpose of confining lunatics, and the House now proving to be much less occupied by paupers than was originally anticipated, and the Gaol having been vacated, I would take the liberty of adding a suggestion for the consideration of all whom it may concern by asking, Why not try to utilize both buildings in such a way as to effectuate a suitable provision for each of these unfortunate classes?

THOS. EDYE.

London, 13th Sept., 1878.

P.S.—There can in all probability be very few if any other person still alive who can give personal testimony on these matters, but should there be any I should wish to hear it.

CHURCH BELLS (Aug. 28, 1878).—*Shifnal*.—"The present bells, of which there are eight, were cast in 1770, by Pack and Chapman of London, and have on them the following inscriptions:—

1. Laudate Deum Sanctum omnipotentem.
2. Laudate Deum Secundum amplitudinem ejus.
3. Laudate Deum Clangore Buccinæ.
4. Laudate Deum Nabilis et Cithara.
5. Laudate Deum Tympano et Tibia.
6. Laudate Deum Hydraulis et Organo.
7. Laudate Deum Cymbalis et Campanis.
8. Singuli Sonent Laudationem Dei.

The first peal on these was one of 5040 grandsire triples in 1774, as recorded at the head of a long list of subsequent ones. The Curfew is still rung on the tenor bell at 9 p.m. from Nov. 5 to Feb. 2, and within a short period a Matins bell was also rung during the same time, at 5 a.m."—*Shrop. Arch. Society Transactions*, pt. 1, p. 450.

ARGUS.

SHROPSHIRE INN SIGNS (Sep. 18, 1878).—In accordance with my promise I now take from Mr. Hotten's book other signs in Shropshire or having a Shropshire origin. "The Case is Altered" (see *Bye-gones* Apr. 17, 1878), is the name of a public-house near Banbury, "so called on account of being built on the site of a mere hovel." Other instances are also given, for similar whimsical reasons. "Old Parr's Head" has been

used on a trades token as well as on a sign-board; in the latter capacity in Chancery Lane, with, under it,

Your head cool,
Your feet warm.
But a glass of good gin
Would do you no harm.

"Admiral Benbow" and "Admiral Rodney" both still figure largely as sign-boards. The "Rodney's Pillar" Inn at Criggion, and the verses on its sign, are given, but the "Admiral Benbow" at Ruyton-xi-Towns, so long kept by a Benbow, is not mentioned. The odd way in which the word "Arms" is used on signs is alluded to. These of course were originally derived from the shield of the owner of the estate on which the inn was situated, but we now have The Railway Arms, at Ludlow, the Puddler's Arms, at Wellington, and others equally absurd all over the country. "The Royal Oak" I only mention to record the fact that "one of the descendants of trusty Dick Pendrell, not many years since, kept an inn at Lewes" bearing this name. "Will Sommers" (see, *Bye-gones* June 28, 1876), has also figured on a signboard; "The Crescent and Anchor" figures at Norton-in-Hales, near Market Drayton. "The Heart and Trumpet" is a somewhat curious sign at Pentre-wern (sic) near Oswestry, perhaps a corruption of Hearts and Trumps." This is an ingenious derivation; the house is, really, situated at Gobowen, and, when rebuilt a few years ago, was re-christened "The Hart and Trumpet." In old times there was a picture of a large red heart with a trumpet beneath; which has given place to an animal of the Deer tribe. As a last quotation from the *History of Signboards* let me mention one nearer home than any:—"A comical alehouse keeper in Oswestry has travestied the sign of the Coach and Horses into the 'Coach and Dogs.'" For the real history of this sign refer to *Bye-gones*, 1876-7, page 227. D.

CURRENT NOTES.

DEATH OF SIR THOMAS MYDDELTON BIDDULPH.—We regret to announce the death of General the Right Hon. Sir Thomas Myddelton Biddulph, K.C.B., brother of the late Colonel Myddelton Biddulph, of Chirk Castle, who died a few years ago. General Biddulph died on Saturday afternoon, September 28, at his residence at Aberfeldie, where he had been in attendance upon the Queen since the Royal return to Scotland. Sir Thomas has, it is understood, succumbed to an acute attack of bronchitis and inflammation of the lungs, in fact, a recurrence of the diseases from which he suffered during a previous visit to the Highlands. The deceased general was attended in his last illness by Sir W. Jenner, her Majesty's physician, and by the surgeon of the Royal Household. On Friday his condition became exceedingly critical, and all expectation of any favourable change in his symptoms was dispelled by the information received at Windsor Castle on Saturday, to the effect that Sir Thomas had passed a very bad night, and that no hopes were entertained of his recovery. Intelligence of his death was received later in the day. By his death her Majesty loses a faithful servant and friend. He was the second and youngest son of Mr. Robert Biddulph and Charlotte Myddelton, of Chirk Castle. He was born in 1809, and entered the Army as cornet in the 1st Life Guards in 1826; and served in the regiment till his promotion to lieutenant-colonel in October, 1851, when he went on half-pay. On the retirement of General Sir George Bowles he was appointed Master of the Queen's Household and Extra Equerry to her Majesty. After-

wards he was appointed Receiver-General of the Duchy of Cornwall, and one of the Joint Keepers of the Queen's Privy Purse in conjunction with the Hon. Sir Charles Phipps, K.C.B. In May, 1867, he was appointed Keeper of the Queen's Privy Purse when that appointment was limited to one official. In 1863 he was created a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath for his civil services, and recently was made a member of her Majesty's Privy Council. Sir Thomas married, February 16, 1857, the Hon. Mary Frederica Seymour, only daughter of Mr. Frederick Charles W. Seymour, by his first wife, Lady Mary Gordon, third daughter of George, ninth Marquis of Huntly. Sir Thomas became full General in October last on the promotions consequent on the New Army Scheme.—The *Court Circular*, dated Balmoral, September 23, contains the following: "The death of General Sir Thomas Biddulph at Abergeldie Mains this day has caused the Queen the profoundest grief. He had been for 27 years one of the Queen's most valuable and confidential servants, and his death is felt by Her Majesty as an irreparable loss. Her Majesty had called there daily during the last week, and had only just left the house when the sad event took place. The Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, went to Abergeldie Mains in the afternoon to enquire after the Hon. Lady Biddulph and her son and daughter. All the members of the Royal Family who were absent have telegraphed their deepest sympathy and regret. The loss of the lamented Sir Thomas Biddulph will be deeply felt by the whole of the Royal Household, of which he had so long been an honoured member. Sir Wm. Jenner and Dr. Profeit were in constant attendance on Sir Thomas Biddulph during the last week." Sir Thomas was a magistrate for the county of Denbigh. The remains have been removed from Abergeldie Mains to the residence of the deceased at Henry the Seventh's Tower, Windsor Castle. Sir Thomas will, it is understood, be interred in the cemetery at Clewer.

THE SHROPSHIRE WORD BOOK.—This new and important work is now in the press, and is the result of many years' literary labour of Miss G. F. Jackson, of Chester, who recently availed herself of an invitation of the author of "Text Life in Norway," to visit the interesting town of Bridgnorth. The only collection of words peculiar to Shropshire yet published is a glossary by the celebrated antiquary, the late Rev. Chas. Henry Hartshorne, F.S.A., who was a native of Broseley, and the valued friend and guest of the late Duke and Duchess of Northumberland. Mr. Hartshorne died in 1865, and his collection of Shropshire words was included in his "Salopia Antiqua," published in 1841. The scope of Miss Jackson's work is far more extensive and not only are definitions given, but each word is exemplified by quotations illustrative of its former use and power of expression in the English language. The vocabulary will also include a list of wild flowers and plants in old Shropshire dialect. To the scholar and philologist, whether of Shropshire or elsewhere, this work will prove of special value, but it cannot fail to interest all those who are Shropshire born. In this undertaking Miss Jackson will render valuable service to this county. In a few years the old words of the Shropshire dialect will be either much modified in pronunciation or become obsolete owing to the spread of education and frequent intercourse with other parts of England. It will then be impossible to form a vocabulary similar to that now completed by the untiring perseverance of Miss Jackson, who has lately had the honour of receiving an unsolicited honorarium from the government of £100, in recognition of past literary work.—*Bridgnorth Journal*.

THE MINING AND MINERS OF NORTH WALES.

The following paper was prepared by Mr. T. F. Evans, inspector of mines, in order to be read at a meeting of the Cymmrodorion Society at Birkenhead. Mr. Evans was prevented by professional duties from attending the meeting:—

Of the numerous gifts so liberally bestowed on Britain by nature, none, perhaps, has contributed so largely to her national greatness and commercial prosperity as a geological structure which happily brings together within her narrow boundaries almost all the elements from which the substantial wealth of the human race is derived. Beneath a surface which rivals the fertility of many countries enjoying far sunnier climes coal, iron, lead, copper, tin, zinc, slate, and salt have for generations been produced so abundantly as to make England a vast laboratory for the preparation of these minerals for their final uses, and into which similar products are imported for the same treatment from the remotest regions of the globe.

Of these subterranean riches that portion of Britain which forms the little Principality of Wales has received a share commensurate to its area, and although it lacks some of the valuable minerals which from the earliest historic times have constituted an important part of the products of England, it possesses in its huge formations of unequalled roofing slate a source of inexhaustible riches, which may well be regarded as an ample compensation for the comparative deficiency. Its mineral wealth appears to have attracted attention at a very early period. Traces of ancient smelting have been discovered in many parts of the country, and pigs of lead and cakes of copper, some of them bearing Roman capital letters, have been found under circumstances which leave no doubt of their genuine antiquity.

I have here by me an engraving which is a faithful picture of one of three cakes of copper found by myself in the Isle of Anglesea a few years ago.

Marks of ancient mining operations are also numerous, but having apparently been conducted on a scale which a modern miner would consider exceedingly limited, time has obliterated the relics to such an extent that a little knowledge of this subject is necessary in order to detect their existence. They are generally in the form of a narrow trench, with a raised bank on each side composed of the waste from which the ore was separated.

In the course of ages the sides have fallen in, the piles of waste have become flattened, and the whole is usually so covered with grass gorse or brambles that it is passed by unheeded unless made an object of special search.

I think it may safely be stated too that many of the caves in our sea cliffs, commonly regarded as natural cavities, are mine levels driven in ancient times when the section presented by a bold rocky coast exposed veins of metallic ores which until then had remained untouched by man. Lodes thus naturally laid open afforded great facilities to the miner whose only tools for attacking the rock were the hardest stones he could find among the rounded pebbles of a neighbouring beach. In these ancient mines the first feature that strikes the miner of the present day is that there are no marks of the borer holes by means of which the blasting of rocks is effected. A miner who some years ago broke into an old working described it to me as being almost too narrow for a man to stand in; the waste was ingeniously packed upon a network of gorse stems, and as remarked by my friend, "peth rhyfedda fu erioedd nid oedd un ol twll ebill yn y lle." There is every reason to believe that the practice of fire setting—a method of extraction still in vogue in some Continental mines, obtained extensively among our ancient miners. In exam-

ining a sea shore cave, recently, I found among other proofs that it was an old mine, a portion of the rock which bore unmistakable evidences of having been discoloured by fire. The illustrations given in "Georgii Agricolæ de Re Metallica," a fine old work on mining, written in the 17th century, gives us a good notion of the manner in which this operation was conducted in early times.

These old workings are undoubtedly of great interest to the Archæologist, but if the common assertion is true that mines worked by the ancients seldom fail to prove profitable when re-opened in modern times, their study becomes a subject of real practical value.

The methods by which the various ores are extracted from the bowels of the earth would each furnish the materials for a lengthy essay of a technical nature, but the time at my disposal in this meeting being of necessity limited, I propose to treat of one department only of the numerous operations prosecuted in North Wales for the raising of minerals of commercial value. I therefore choose for the subject of my few remarks that branch of the miner's art with which I am most intimately associated, and which, so far as my knowledge goes, has received less attention than it merits from writers on the industries of the Principality. I allude to the mining of the metalliferous ores. These mines and the miners and other persons employed in the extraction and preparation of their products, will be my theme for a few minutes, and guided by the terms of the invitation which brought me here, I shall endeavour to bring my observations to bear upon the development of one of the natural resources of the Principality.

My purpose is to point out, in the first place, certain causes which have tended to hinder the due development of the mineral property of the country; and in the second place to consider to what extent existent circumstances and influences have militated against the professional advancement of the Welsh working miner.

The metallic ores produced are those of copper, iron, lead, and zinc. They are distributed almost over every county composing North Wales, and occur almost entirely in the silurian and carboniferous rocks. The quantities obtained during the year 1877 were as follows:—

	Tons.
Copper ore.....	3,672
Iron ore	498
Iron pyrites	1,163
Lead ore	22,388
Zinc ore	7,600

In addition to which 139oz. 4dwts. 13grs. of gold was obtained from the Clogau mine in Merionethshire, while a large proportion of the lead ore contained a notable percentage of silver. From these figures it appears that Wales produced considerably more than one-fourth of the lead ore, and nearly one third of the zinc ore raised in the United Kingdom, while the hands employed in the extraction and preparation for market numbered upwards of 6,000, of whom 373 were females. These quantities and numbers represent an industry so important and of so interesting a nature that the question how far it is remunerative or unremunerative cannot fail to present itself to the man of business and the economist. A calculation made according to the average prices for the year approximately ascertained shows the total value of the ores raised to be in round numbers £360,000, while on the other hand an estimate of all the expenses, including carriage and royalty, shows a total of £404,844, thus giving apparently a loss of nearly £45,000 as the aggregate result of the year's working. The plant and working capital employed is not very easily estimated, but taking a few mines

which may be justly considered fair examples and calculating therefrom £300,000 will not probably be an excessive valuation. This at five per cent. per annum gives £15,000 more to be added to the loss on the working, thus making a total to the bad of £60,000 a year on the mines under notice. All circumstances being taken into account and duly weighed the year 1877 may be considered a good average year for these mines, and the appearance of a loss as the financial result is certainly not unusual. The reverse would be a rare and fortunate exception. It is merely a question of extent and any year taken at random since reliable statistics have been collected would show a heavy balance on the wrong side of the account.

Now when we bear in mind that some of the mines included in this estimate pay large profits to the shareholders some idea may be formed of the enormous unremunerative cost attending the working of the remainder. It is often a common cry to complain of the depression of trade and of the consequent poverty of the commercial community, but it would be difficult—probably impossible—to name any other business in our country which shows uniformly year after year a positive loss upon its aggregate transactions.

It may therefore savour apparently of presumption to hint that an extension of operations which are attended with so heavy a loss might produce beneficial results and prove a permanent advantage to the country, but a careful consideration of the manner in which mining affairs are at present conducted will possibly throw a light upon the matter which may tend greatly to modify the views formed by a glance at the figures. The loss arises from the unproductive work termed exploratory—a work no less essential to the maintenance of profitable mines than to the fresh discovery of valuable lodes and deposits. It is on the judgment and skill exercised in choosing the seat of these operations, and the prudence and economy with which they are conducted, that the success of the industry depends. These conditions being absent, mining adventures must almost, without exception, prove miserable failures, and failures have a doubly damaging effect. They are a loss in themselves, and they cause prudent capitalists to shake their heads at a speculation in which the risks are so great and the prizes so few. Hence it is that mineral properties, possessing fair chances of success if properly worked, often remain idle for want of the money necessary to ensure their proper development. This is a condition of things which exists in our country at the present moment, while numerous small companies are spending money extracted from too confiding, and often far from wealthy, shareholders on properties on which an experienced and honest miner would not venture to lay out a shilling.

This evil arises from the highly reprehensible practice of making mines the mere pegs on which to hang transactions in the buying and selling of shares which may truthfully be described as nothing better than gambling.

A party of promoters obtain a take-note or a lease of a piece of ground; they care little whether it contains the elements of future success or not, but securing a proprietary by means of an extensively circulated prospectus in which the immense profits of certain—perhaps neighbouring—mines are made prominent, they obtain payment for the so-styled valuable mineral property, are rewarded for their services in forming the company, and find a convenient subject for financial manipulation which lasts as long as the pockets or the patience of the shareholders. All the money being uselessly spent the concern then goes into liquidation, in some instances only to be resuscitated and re-christened for a repetition of the same process of selling, buying, "bullying," and "bearing." That such

transactions as these do the country incalculable harm by damaging its reputation as a fair field for mining enterprise cannot for a moment be doubted; and the question naturally arises whether any remedy exists. The evil would certainly be greatly lessened if maiden ladies, clergymen, and retired officers could only be convinced that company-formers and shareholders are not actuated by motives of philanthropy when they offer the public immense fortunes on the payment of a few nominal pounds in the purchase of valuable mine shares.

A radical remedy lies deeper. It is jointly held between the owner of the soil and the capitalist who is willing to invest in a genuine enterprise. It is the landlord's duty, no less to himself than to the public, to be careful that he leases his lands only to men who have the means of giving the property a fair trial, and when satisfied on this point he should give the miner every encouragement by granting liberal terms and a moderate rate of royalty. On the other hand the intending investor, if not himself a practical miner, should obtain reliable advice upon the mineral property, and ascertain the character of the company he proposes to join, and its financial condition before he parts with his money. If these two simple rules were observed we should soon witness a vast improvement in this industry in North Wales. There is no reason why mining should not be carried on as honestly as farming, and with proper prudence and skill the profits of the miner need not be much more precarious than those of the agriculturist. If all mines were thus judiciously chosen and properly conducted, a capitalist dividing his investments among several would be amply repaid by dividends remitted with almost as much regularity as those of the English fund holder, while an industry founded on healthy and legitimate enterprise would contribute to increased prosperity in the country.

We now turn to the Welsh working miner. Those who have travelled through the mining districts of Wales cannot have failed to notice in many parts trim white-washed cottages with neat gardens, and sometimes a paddock of good pasture, which supports the productive black milch cow. These are the dwellings of the hardy miners, whose hours of underground labour being generally and very properly limited to eight in the twenty-four, have thus time to devote to the healthy occupation of cultivating a bit of ground which forms a valuable auxiliary in supplying the daily wants of the humble household. A visit to a tidy cottage of this class when the day's work is done will discover the head of the family either book or pen in hand or engaged upon some musical piece which he seldom fails to render correctly and in a fairly cultivated voice. The good housewife, like the one in Burns's *Cotter's Saturday night*,

Gars auld claes look amais as weel's the new

while the children either join the father in his musical exercises, or prepare for their Sunday School class by learning a chapter from the Bible, or by studying, with the aid of a Commentary, the part marked out by the teacher for reading and discussion on the coming Sabbath. This is a condition which indicates honesty, steadiness, and industry in the parents, and one which promises well to bring up the children in the possession of the same sterling virtues. A race is thus perpetuated, exhibiting qualities which ought to ensure success in life and the advancement to high positions of individuals of the obscurest origin. How comes it then, it will be asked, that these men are almost invariably ordinary workmen, or seldom occupy more than a subordinate office in the work on which they are constantly employed? How is it that in a country teeming with mineral wealth the direction of its

mining operations is generally intrusted to imported strangers? The answer appears to be that the miners of our country do not direct their intelligence to the acquisition of those branches of knowledge which would render them capable of undertaking the responsibilities involved.

A knowledge of the laws of musical composition, a skill in polemical discussions, a facility for turning engynion ingeniously alliterative may truly be regarded as denoting a certain standard of mental cultivation, but they are not the accomplishments which convert the working miner into an able mine manager. The miner cannot hope to better his position unless he acquires that knowledge of his art which now makes the ordinary Cornishman his professional superior and master. This he can never do until he suppresses his overweening taste for mediocre music and poetry, and devotes his leisure hours to the acquisition of the substantial knowledge essential to success in his daily vocation. It is a common complaint that the Englishman is made manager through favouritism, that national prejudices determine the choice, and that many an intelligent workman in an extensive mine would direct its affairs with greater skill and success. These grumblers should be reminded that capitalists who embark in any enterprise are usually men who care little for any other consideration than the means most likely to produce profitable results. They want the best return that can be obtained upon their investments, and, in order to secure it, do not hesitate to sink nationalities and prejudices, and to appoint the best men they can find to develop their properties and to husband their resources. I would say to my brother miners:—

The fault, dear brethren, is not in our stars,

But in ourselves, that we are underlings.

That Welshmen are not inherently wanting in the natural abilities requisite for the management of a mine is very clearly proved by the fact that one of the best conducted mines in the kingdom—the Van Mine in Montgomeryshire—is managed by a thorough Welshman assisted by his son and a sub-agent of the same nationality. The accompanying section of that mine, kindly drawn out for me by Mr. Williams, jun., explains the systematic manner in which this great mine has been developed, and furnishes an instance of the miner's skill in illustrating his operations by means of a well drawn sectional plan.

A knowledge of the steam engine in its various forms could be acquired in less time than an ability to handle the "pedwar mesur ar ugain," an intimacy with the principles of mechanics sufficient for the miner's use would cost less labour than the subtle argumentation polemical discussion demands, while the indispensable art of underground surveying and mapping could be learnt in less time than that usually devoted to the laws of musical harmony. I am very far from condemning accomplishments which may justly be designated elegant and refined, but the miner who desires promotion must treat them merely as amusements altogether subordinate to studies infinitely more important.

It is not, perhaps, the first time that this view has been taken of the Welsh miner's condition, and his friends have fallen into a not unnatural error as to the nature of the remedy required. It has been supposed that as geology and mineralogy deal with the rocks the miner attacks, and the ore he extracts, a proficiency in these kindred sciences would at once remove the disadvantages under which he now labours. Such a knowledge would undoubtedly be of great service to him—indeed it is invaluable to the miner who explores a new country—but as a practical miner employed in Wales, he requires that assistance far less than he does a sound education in the

OCTOBER 2, 1878.

three R's, a knowledge of elementary mechanics, and plane trigonometry, and a respectable amount of skill in the use of the theodolite, the scale, and the drawing pen. The rest he must learn in the mine. There is a singular paucity of books upon mining in the English language, but as book learning is at best but a poor substitute for the experience acquired by the practice of an art, the young working miner who keeps his eyes open will learn more in a few weeks than the student who has access to the writings of German and French authors can possibly acquire in the same number of years of reading. There is one point more which I would emphatically impress upon the fraternity of which I claim membership. I approach it, nevertheless, with unaffected fear and hesitation, feeling that a pardonable misconstruction may lay me open to the charge of defective patriotism. We should leave the intricacies of the Welsh language to professional philologists, and use greater exertions to acquire a mastery of English. We are attached to our language. Its vigour and beauties claim our respect, its antiquity commands our veneration, but if we would fight the battle of life shoulder to shoulder with our neighbours and fellow subjects we must learn to speak their tongue, and enter the lists with them on equal terms.

It is, therefore, every Welsh miner's duty to himself to make English the language of study, the language of the mine, the language of his business. If the two languages cannot co-exist, we must regretfully reconcile ourselves to the operation of the relentless law of natural selection, and making the best use of the surviving fittest, compete with the Englishman in friendly rivalry for the more lucrative posts the profession offers.

The opening up of the country by systems of railways, which now penetrate almost every valley, has enormously facilitated the development of its mineral resources. Mines which until lately were situated in the remotest spots are made easy of access, while the costs of transporting the materials for working and the ores raised—formerly a formidable item in the expenses of many a Welsh mine—has now in most districts been reduced to a very moderate proportion of the monthly outlay.

Honest and judicious working is alone wanting to largely extend the industry; and it is devoutly to be wished that our countrymen will speedily qualify themselves for a duty which properly belongs to them, and assume a conspicuous part in making Welsh mining a still more important, honourable, and profitable pursuit.

CUCKOO ALE.—The *Leisure Hour* for May, 1877, in some notes on the Cuckoo have remarked, that "in Shropshire it was customary for the labouring classes, as soon as they heard the first cuckoo, to leave off work, and to devote the rest of the day to merry-making, which went by the name of the first 'cuckoo-ale.'"

A SALOPIAN WAGER.—It is said there is a curious picture at Sundorne Castle, near Shrewsbury, representing certain parties measuring legs, which commemorates a wager on the part of one of the Corbets, who staked a goodly slice of his estate in a bet that he had the hand-somest leg in the county of Salop, and won it.

THE FOUR ALLS.—This was formerly a favourite sign-board for public-houses up and down the country. In *Notes and Queries* some years since a correspondent called attention to a picture at Park Hall, near Oswestry, which represented "Nine Alls;" including the Parson, who prayed for all; the Soldier, who fought for all; the Lawyer, who pleaded for all; the King, who governed all; and the Devil, who took all!

NOTES.

SEVERN,—WYE,—RHEIDOL.—The following lines refer to the Pumlumon rivers—

*Hafren, ag Wye, hyfryd eu gwedd
A'r Rheidol fawr ei hanhyddedd.*

Some of your readers may give these in a more complete form as they are but fragments I once heard repeated.

GYPT.

THE DUKE OF POWIS.—In the part just published of *Montgomeryshire Collections*, in the Appendix to "Herbertiana," the writer quotes Cathrall's *History of Oswestry* (which was published in 1855), for the statement that "the Duke of Powis visited Oswestry in the Mayoralty of Robert Buckley (sic) Esq." in 1737. My reasons for referring to this are twofold; first to point out that the name is "Barkley" in our Histories, and second to observe that the statement, and account of expenditure caused by the Duke's visit, should have been quoted from page 73 of Price's *History*, published in 1815. There was not much original in Cathrall's book.

A POWYSLANDER.

ENGLISH AND WELSH ON THE BORDERS. The line of demarcation between the English and Welsh in Montgomeryshire may be traced, according to the Rev. Walter Davies in 1828 (see his *Works*, vol. iii., page 440), "from the junction of the Tanat with the Vyrnwy above Llanymyneich, and proceeding southward, leaving on the left or English side, New Chapel, Guilsfield, Pool, Berriew, Tregynon, and Aberhafesp, and thence following the Severn to Pumlumon; though for many miles from its source the Welsh is the prevailing language on both sides." Since "Gwallter Mechain" wrote fifty years have passed, which has been a period of Day Schools, Sunday Schools, and Railways, with their Anglicizing influences. Some places have gone through the transition state from Welsh to English, and others, since the opening of the Cambrian Railways, are now hastily accepting the change. The following is about the present line of demarcation:—Starting at Penybont-llanerch-Emrys on the Tanat, with our faces south, we follow the road to Llansantffraid, cross the River Vyrnwy at the bridge, and follow the right bank of the river to opposite Meifod, whence we go in a direct line to Castell-Caereinion. We here turn west to a point midway between Llanwyddelan and New Mills; thence to Gregynog Hall and Bwlch-y-fridd. Here we make for Llanwnnog and cross the Cambrian Railway at Pont-dol-goch station, from which point we draw the line by Trefeglwys across the River Clywedog, near to Dol-llys, between Llangurig and Bwlch-y-Gareg, to the borders of Radnorshire west of Cilwgr.

GYPT.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Sep. 11, 1878).

Apud Oswester xxix^o die Junij
anno Regni Elizabeth Regine &c vijmo
& anno d'ni 1565

The agreement by the hole consent is that none of these now elected burgness or hereafter to be elected shall enjoy the fredome thereof longer then he or they shall be convenient and resident within this Towne Provided that one moneths absens within the yere shalbe granted for no deffaltt. And ev'ry one nowe chosen or hereafter to be chosen shall (haveinge above two children) pay for himself and for two of his children fyve poundes and for the rest of his or their children twenty shillings a yere they

lyveinge Provided also that it may be lawfull for any gentleman to be elected hereafter to be burgens allthoughe he be not convenient w'thin this Towne at the election of the hole burgenss of the said Towne and bytheir consent so as the same gent. by the und'rstanding of the Baillyffes and Baillyffes occupiers at that pr'sent beinge be then known unto them to be no occupiers or haveinge any trade of liveinge or sellinge to the hynderance of the Towne.

LUMLEY.

Thomas lloyd } bailiffs
Evan Jones }
John Lloyd Liffenant
John Price clerk now of
Oswestre w'th the consent of all the coburgenss of the Towne.

George Prowd of the towne of Salop in the countie of Salop drap'r the xxth day of Octobre Anno d'ne Elizabeth Regine decimo was made and sworn burgess of the towne of Oswestre and also the day and yere above said his foure sonnes that is to say Lewis Prowd, Will'm Prowd Thomas Prowd and Rog'r Prowd were made burgesses of the said towne of Oswestre in consideracion whereof the said George hath payd the some off seven pounds.

Richard Owen of the towne of Salop in the com' of Saloppe gent the xxixth day of June Anno Regni d'ne m'ie Elizabeth dei gra' &c. undecimo was made and sworn burgess of the towne of Oswester and also the daye and yere above said two of his sonnes whose names are subscribed were made burgesses of the sayde towne of Oswester in consideracon whereof he shall pay fyve pounds and for that he shall have his other three sonnes in lycke man'r free whose names be subscribed &c. and for ether of them he shall pay xxx. whose names be John Owen / Richard Owen / Harry Owen / Edward Owen / and George Owen / withe iij li. he paid for his said iij cheldren / is according to my Lord Lumle's order.

Thomas Stoughton esquier the daye and yere aforesaid was elected and also sworn burgess of the said towne of Oswester, and his sonnes, viz Lawrens Stoughton and Adry an Stoughton /

Wylyam Gerard esquier in man'r and forme befor saide was also elected and sworn burgess of the said towne of Oswester by the consent of all the Burgesses there

Will'm Merkton gent cittizen of London was elected and sworn burgens in the comon halle the xxxth of Maye 1571 in Ao Regni Elizabeth Dei gra' &c. xiiij o / and his fredome for good consideracons movinge the then Baillyffes and coburgenss was geven him (gratis)

Md xxv September 1571 and in Ao xiiij o R.R. Elizabeth, &c. John Blec'r (?) Hassall esquier of Brasham in the Com of Suffolk was by the Baillyffes & burgenss at the election there holden admitted & swoorne to be burgens of the Towne.

Wylyam Gough
Rich. Evans.

Md. The day aforesaid Thomas Townshend / Robert Townshend / Henry Townshend and Isaak Townshend sonnes to S'r Robt Townshend knyght decessed late justice of Chester who was freeman heretofore chosen & to be burgens by the free consent of the corporacion of this towne By reason whereof the said Thomas / Robert / Henry / & Isaak Townsend be also free yet at the request of the said Henry Townshend the baileiffes and burgenss

of this Towne the day and yere aforesaid with their free consent and agreement Do ratifye and confirme the freedom and burgenship of the said Thomas Robert, Henry, & Isaak.

Wyly'm Goughe.
Rich : Evans :
Bailliffs.

Md. xviiij febr. 1571. Ao R. R. Elizabeth xiiij. Sir John Throckmorton knyght one of the Quenes higher counsell' in the m'rches of Wales & Justice of Osester was elected and swoorne burgess of the said towne in the comon hall therein and the gent under named his sonnes together with the rest of his childern were also elected and mad burgens the said daie and the said Sir John Throckmorton to enjoie the same his burgenshipp to his self and his childern begotten & to be gotten

ffraunces Throckmorton esquier
Thomas Throckmorton }
George Throckmorton } gent.
Edd Throckmorton }

QUERIES.

TOWNSHIPS IN WALES.—When were the different parishes of the Principality divided into townships as at present constituted? I have not access to the different Acts (27—35 Henry viii.) relating to the incorporation of Wales with England. H.

A WELCOME GUEST AT SHREWSBURY.—The *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1813 gives an account of the doings of "the benevolent Mr. Webb." I may perhaps be confessing to great ignorance, but I never heard of him before I read of his doings in the magazine. He seems to have been an amiable old gentleman, who, possessing a fortune of £12,000 a year, scattered right and left of him £10,000 a year as he went to and fro through England. He seems to have arrived in Shrewsbury early in June, 1813, where he parted with £1,250, half of which was appropriated "to the putting apprentice of friendless and orphan children." Can any of your readers give fuller particulars relative to Mr. Webb's Shropshire visit? DON QUIXOTE.

FRENCH PRISONERS AT MONTGOMERY.—You have had several references to the French Prisoners at War who were in Oswestre between 1812 and 1814. In the *Gents : Mag :* the death is announced of "M. Chatuing, a French officer, who had been near four years a prisoner on parole at Montgomery." Has any record been kept of the sojourn of these prisoners in 'Montgomery'? BLACKPOOL.

POWDER MILL IN WALES. — Where is "Casawes Wood, near Penrhyn?" In one of the magazines for 1809 we are told that a Powder Mill recently erected, exploded there in consequence of a carpenter, doing some repairs, using an iron hammer instead of a wooden mallet. The man, his assistant, and two women were blown twenty yards; three of the party were killed. NEMO.

REPLIES.

A MERIONETHSHIRE BARD (July 31, 1878). There is another work by "Bardd y Brenin" (which I have) not mentioned in the list furnished in *Bye-gones*, viz., "Terpsichore's Banquet, or select beauties of various National Melodies (most of them never before published) now arranged with Bases properly adapted to the Harp and Piano, and with variations." W.P.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (July 31, 1878).—*Mrs. Barrett.* Mr. and Mrs. Barrett were gentlefolks living at Cae-Glas, a pretty house in Church-street, afterwards the Rev. N. Roberts's, which, at his death, was bought by Mr. Jones, of Chester, pulled down, and two houses now occupied by Mr. Bull and Mrs. Rees were built at the extremities of the grounds. Mr. Barrett's *butler* was known for many years in Oswestry as "Jones the Overseer," and "Jones the Waiter." F.

RE-ISSUE OF PENNANT'S WALES (Aug. 14, 1878).—Perhaps it is not generally known that a new edition of Pennant was commenced about the year 1836 by a Mr. Earp, with copious notes; and published by Smith, Elder, & Co. It was issued in large 4to parts at 2s. 6d.; each part was illustrated with 3 large lithographic views from drawings by the Messrs. Lines of Birmingham. From some cause or other it was discontinued after the 3rd part. The editor resided in Carnarvon during the publication of these parts. W.P.
Wrexham.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Aug. 14, 1878.)

BRASSEY, THOMAS, was born November 7, 1805, at Buerton, near Chester, and after receiving his education at a private school he was articulated as a pupil to a land surveyor. At the age of twenty-one he went to reside at Birkenhead, where he began business in a very humble way as a brickmaker, lime burner, and dealer in coal. A card of his has been preserved by one of his old friends thus printed, "Thomas Brassey respectfully requests your orders for coal." He also acted as local agent there for Mr. Price, of Bryn-y-pys, and years afterwards he in conjunction with Messrs. Jackson of that town (who had also commenced life in a very humble way) purchased most of that gentleman's estate in that neighbourhood, and made a large sum of money in doing so. An accidental meeting with George Stephenson, the engineer, led to his great success in life. He obtained through him his first contract in railway construction, and by the aid of Messrs. Dixons, of Chester, the means to carry it through successfully. From that time to his death in 1870 the history of railway enterprise is but so many chapters in his wonderful life, a story so well told by Mr. Arthur Helps in "The Life and Labours of Mr. Brassey 1805-1870," that it would be no compliment to the author to rehearse it in a condensed form.

BRAYNE, JOHN, a member of an old Salopian family, resident near to Bridgnorth, in that county, comes down to us with a religious halo surrounding his name, which cannot fail to command respect. A Cheshire man had been incarcerated in the year 1410, for an offence against the Abbot of Chester, and he lay in prison for months until this excellent man, John Brayne, in April 1411, become bail for him "out of reverence for the feast of Passover." There is no evidence to show that he had been moved to this good deed by any other motive than the high one mentioned above, and the act is all the more honourable and noteworthy when we reflect that the unhappy offender had been sent to prison for an offence against the Church. We dwell upon the dark days of superstition, but here is an instance of how the great principles of our common Christianity influenced a stranger to comfort the miserable and to do reverence to the author of his faith by a willing compliance with His command. The deed itself, and the spirit in which it was done, reflect honour upon the worthy man, whose name is thus enrolled among the sons of this shire.

BRERETON, HENRY, in 1614, published "Newes of the present miseries of Russia, occasioned by the late warre in that country." This gentleman was born in Cheshire, and partook very largely of the qualities that made his family so famous in the early part of the seventeenth century. This little volume is a curious contribution to the early history of Russia, and may even now be read with much profit.

BRERETON, JOHN, of Ashley, in Cheshire, was born there in 1576, and when he attained the years of manhood displayed rare abilities as a lawyer. He rose to be King Sergeant at law in Ireland, and was knighted. Dying without issue, he left a considerable share of his property to Sidney College, Cambridge, where he had been educated.

BRERETON, JOHN, in 1602, published "A relation of the Discoverie of the North Part of Virginia." He was a native of Cheshire, and brother to William Brereton, who cut so great a figure during the Civil Wars. We gather from the volume just mentioned how this gentleman was given to travel, and although he tells us nothing new about Virginia, the book was a valuable contribution to our literature when published.

BRERETON, JOHN—(sometimes called Joseph) was a member of the great Cheshire family of that name, but he was himself an innkeeper at, and Mayor of, Chester in 1623. There is nothing particular to record of him, except his having altered the arrangements made by his predecessor in office—Robert Amory—for the conduct of the Chester races. "He caused the three cupps to be sold, so that the interest thereof would make one faire silver cuppe of the value of £8;" and the owner of the horse that won (having run five times around the Roodee) was "to have the cuppe freely for ever." To those who care for "our noble sports," and who take an interest in Chester races, the name of this gentleman must be precious, for he may be looked upon as the father of the ancient cup race, which occupies so much of the attention of the sporting world.

BRERETON, OWEN SALUSBURY—was Cheshire born, being son of Thomas Brereton, of Shotwick Park, in that county. He was educated at Westminster School, and in 1734 elected to Cambridge. In 1738 he was appointed a lottery commissioner, in 1746 recorder of Liverpool, in 1774 M.P. for Ilchester, and in 1775 constable of Flint Castle. That he was a very learned and accomplished man is well known, and also how he was honoured with admission to the Antiquarian and Royal Societies, in compliment to his antiquarian and scientific knowledge. He died in 1798.

BRERETON, RICHARD, a native of, and long resident in the city of Chester, must be mentioned as the friend and supporter of Randle Holme in bringing out his great work "The Academy of Armoury." Mr. Holme in one of his many dedications inserted in that volume acknowledges the service he rendered to him thus: "When I had finished the first and second books, I stood at stay to consider whether I was able to encounter with so great a Goliath as the remaining part was, for the vast expense past and the far greater to succeed, and having so few allies, and never a champion to appear for my present assistance, caused me to despair of victory, till you like a little David stood up for my cause, and put life into my fainting spirits, taking the quarrel into your own hands, and not as an assistant co-helper, or subscriber, but as an undertaker." In these times, deserving authors can command success, but when Randle Holme undertook his

great task, readers of costly works were few in number, and under the circumstances narrated Mr. Brereton's noble action is deserving of all honour, for he not only did a service to his friend, but rendered a benefit to the public at large.

BREREWOOD, JOHN, son of Alderman Brerewood, was born at Chester, and is mentioned in Mr. Bruen's life as a gentleman who had very earnestly adopted the reformed religion, and was well grounded in it. He took great pains in shewing how many of the Popish views, entertained by weak-minded Protestants in relation to meats and drinks, fasting upon particular days of the week, and the celibacy of the clergy, were alike opposed to reason and the word of God. "He fired from the altar, laying level with the ground every papistical opinion that had exalted itself against the true knowledge of God, and so brought every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." We can well understand how so marked a man would stand resolutely for the new faith, and how a few like-minded men in our own day, might scatter by the same means many of the silly notions that have taken hold of people's minds in these enlightened times, to the no small scandal of the church, and the serious injury of society.

BREREWOOD, ROBERT, a citizen of Chester, and born there was chosen recorder in 1639. He was the son of John Brerewood, sheriff of the city, and grandson to Robert Brerewood, who had been three times Mayor thereof. He was sergeant-at-law, judge of three shires in Wales, and was made a judge of the Common Pleas in 1643. He died 1654, aged 67 years.

BRETLAND, REGINALD, who died in 1703, and is buried at Mottram Church, in Cheshire, had descended from an ancient Cheshire family of that name, and is generally believed to have been a native of that county. He had been bred to the law, and was distinguished for his learning, and his genius in his practice. An eloquent speaker he was most effective in his address, and gave universal satisfaction to his clients. Like most eminent men in his line, he discouraged litigation by supporting an equitable arrangement of matters in difference, and this habit, so general in the profession, has done more to secure a satisfactory administration of law in this country than any amount of learning possessed by our judges. If our laws can be said to have been based upon common sense, so is it equally true that a sense of equity has a large share in guiding judges to a common-sense determination when dealing with the most abstruse questions of law.

BRETTERG, CATHERINE, was daughter of Mr. John Bruen, of Bruen Stapleford, in Cheshire, and is always alluded to a lady of uncommon beauty, and of the most exemplary piety. She married William Bretterg of Bretterghold near Liverpool, but did not long enjoy the happiness of a wedded life, for she died in the twenty-second year of her age in the year 1601. A portrait of this lady appeared in Clark's "Marrow of Ecclesiastical History," and her many excellencies have been dwelt upon by divers friendly pens; they may all be summed up in a saying of her own, "It is better to love God than to possess riches, to serve Him even for a short season, than to enjoy long life without Him, to die young and to be ever with the Lord, than to abide on earth without his continued and constant presence."

BRIGHT, THOMAS, a native of Shropshire, but long resident at Shrewsbury, where in 1730, he carried on the business of a tanner, left his estate at Astley in trust to pay out of its annual proceeds, a sum of money to the

minister of Astley, a further sum to repair the chapel, and the residue to educate and clothe poor children, and put them out apprentices. In 1825 the rent of this estate came to seventy pounds per annum, a noble benefaction, but capable of improvement under good management.

BRISCOE, THOMAS, a well-known itinerant preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists, who died in 1797, is deserving of remembrance for the good service he did in his humble sphere at a time when the condition of the people was most unpromising. He was born, it is said, in Cheshire, and, notwithstanding many disadvantages, he became a well-read and influential member of society, a good preacher, and a most pious man. He had been connected with the Methodists for about thirty years, which proves that he must have been among the earliest promoters of Mr. Wesley's views in the neighbourhood of Chester, in which city he spent the latter years of his very useful life as a "supernumerary," exchanging at his death the present mortal life, for one of eternal duration, to enjoy in heaven the glory of the redeemed ones.

BROAD, BENJAMIN. A writer who knew this practical man states that "he was a farmer at Thruston, in Herefordshire, and a native of that county." His name has come down to us through a small work published at Hereford in 1713, entitled "A discourse of the method of attracting rats and taking them alive, as practised for a series of years (with invariable success) by Benjamin Broad, of Thruston, farmer." Mr. Thomas, arranged this work for the press, one thousand copies of it being sold at one guinea each, and so highly was the "secret" prized by the Admiralty, that the Lords paid upwards of six hundred pounds to secure it. Quoting from the letter of a friend we may add, "Ben Broad was a quaint, honest, far-seeing man, he saw a thing and stuck to it till he mastered it, and having done that, he put his acquired knowledge into practice, and in this instance as he states 'with invariable success,' and his name should be remembered as that of a benefactor to his country." Mr. Allen has done so already, and as in duty bound we follow his example.

BROADHURST, MARGARET, born in 1510 at Hedge Row, within the parish of Prestbury, in Cheshire, is mentioned in the local annals of the place as one of those wonderful beings who have lived long beyond the allotted age of man. She died, it is said, in 1650, and had led a happy, merry existence for one hundred and forty years, upon the simplest of country fare. "The Cricket of the Hedge," as she was called, is made to attest her own age in a somewhat remarkable manner, for, according to reckoning, she was "four score years old" when she gave birth to her "snichet" of a daughter, and the young lady herself was in her sixtieth year when the mother died! The story carries its own confirmation, or refutation, as readers may choose to accept it, but since the record has been deemed deserving of publication elsewhere, we cannot very well refuse to repeat it here.

BROME, WILLIAM, a native of Earthington, in the county of Hereford, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, with a view of taking orders in the Church of England, but he could not subscribe to the required oaths, and accordingly he gave up his clerical plans and returned into privacy, devoting his time to literature. He was esteemed as the principal ornament of his college at a time when there were numerous men of mark in residence there. His knowledge of antiquities and of natural history qualified him for the great work of his life—a provincial history of his native

county—but for some unknown reason he destroyed all the materials he had prepared for this work, and died without publishing anything.

BROMLEY, SIR GEORGE, was born at Hodnet, in Shropshire, and was son of William Bromley, of the same place. "He was Sheriff of Salop in 1552, and a member of the Council of Wales. He filled the office of Chief Justice of Chester, and was also Custos Rotulorum of Shropshire." Short as that record is, it covers a life of influence and of power; a life well spent in public services, and from all we know of the learned gentlemen, we may safely aver that he was a man of fine parts, and of upright intentions doing his duty right loyally to the Crown, but always with a lively regard for public interests.

CURRENT NOTES.

The ancient custom of "Walking the Fair" was observed at Market Drayton on Thursday, Sept. 19. The officers of the Court Leet, javelinmen, constables, and others paraded the bounds, and the crier made the usual proclamation as to tolls and privileges, and warned all rogues and vagabonds, cutpurses, and disorderly persons to leave the fair.

In his last report to the Nantwich Rural Sanitary Authority, the Surveyor, having occasion to mention Spurstow Spa, states that at one time it was much frequented. There was a museum of crutches, &c., of restored patients, and a former finger-post at the junction of the Spurstow and Bunbury roads bore the following inscription:—

"If you are troubled with sore or flaw,
This is the way to Spurstow Spa;
If all your sores you've left in the lurch,
This is the way to Bunbury Church."

A MAN OF METAL.—On Christmas Day, 1805, there died, in his 77th year, Lewis Gwynne, Esq., of Monachty, Cardiganshire. He had accumulated a handsome fortune, which he left to the Rev. A. T. Jones, of Tulgyn. He had in his house, when he died, such a quantity of gold that a horse could not carry the weight. The amount was reckoned at £100,000.

A CAT IN THE BAG.—During Mr. Sergeant Talfourd's sojourn at Shrewsbury Assizes in 1833, a cat was very fond of the learned councillor's room. His clerk, while packing up, had occasion to leave one of the trunks open, and in the hurry of departure, closed it up suddenly and corded it for the journey. On arriving at Hereford a strange noise was heard to proceed from one of the trunks. The clerk proceeded to open it, when out jumped the Salopian cat; and on further examination a hatch of fine kittens was found in the sergeant's wig.—*Salopian Shreds and Patches.*

A CHESHIRE DWARF.—On the year after the Great Fire in London, 1666, one of the attractions of Bartholomew Fair was a female dwarf from Cheshire. She was on view "at Mr. Croome's at the sign of the Shoe and Slap, near the Hospital gate of West Smithfield," and was described as "a Girl above Sixteen Years of age, born in Cheshire, and not above eighteen inches long; having shed her teeth several times, and not a perfect bone in any part of her, only the head; yet she hath all her senses to admiration, and discourses, reads very well, sings, whistles, and all very pleasant to hear. God Save the King!"—*Cheshire Sheaf.*

OCTOBER 9, 1878.

NOTES.

"HOURS AMONG THE ROCKS AND CLOUDS."—Such was the title of a paper written by Mr. Edwin Lees, describing his visit to Plinlimmon, which appeared in the *Naturalists' Magazine*, July, 1838 (Whitaker, London). Judging from extracts which I have seen, I believe the paper is well worth reprinting in your columns, that is provided some of your contributors can furnish you with a copy of it. H.S.

GWYDIR CHAPEL, LLANRWST.

This beautiful structure was erected in the year 1633, by Sir Richard Wynne, of Gwydir, from a design of Inigo Jones, and was for many years the burial place of the illustrious Family of Gwydir. At the sides of the Chapel, fixed in panels of wood, are several engravings on brass, illustrative of the Personages who are interred below; and in the East corner is a Tablet of white marble, containing the following remarkable Pedigree; comprising a period of 500 years.

This Chapel was erected Anno Domini 1633, By Sr. Richard Wynne, of Gwydir, in the County of Carnarvon, Knight and Baronet, treasurer to the high and mightie Princess Henrietta Maria, queen of England, daughter to Henry the fourth, King of France, and wife to our soveraigne King Charles. Where lyeth buried his father, Sr. John Wynne, of Gwydir, in the County of Caernarvon, Knight and Baronet, sonne and heyre to Maurice Wynne, sonne and heyre to John Wynne, sonne and heyre to Meredith; which three lyeth buried in the Church of Dolwethelan, with tombs over them. This Meredith was sonne and heyre to Evan, sonne and heyre to Robert, sonne and heyre to Meredith, sonne and heyre to Howell, sonne and heyre to David, sonne and heyre to Griffith, sonne and heyre to Carradock, sonne and heyre to Thomas, sonne and heyre to Roderick, lord of Anglesey, sonne to Owen Gwyneth, prince of Wales; and younger brother to David prince of Wales; who married Jane Plantageinet, sister to King Henry the second. There succeeded this David three princes: his nephew Leolinus Magnys, who married Ione, daughter to King John; David his sonne, nephew to King Henry the third; and Leolyn, the last prince of Wales of that house and line, who lived in King Edward the first's time. Sr. Iohn Wynne married Sydney, who lyeth buried here, the daughter of Sir William Gerrard, Knight, lord chancellor of Ireland, by whom he had issue, Sr. Iohn Wynne, who died at Lvea, in Italy; Sr. Richard Wynne, now living; Thomas Wynne, who lyeth here; Owen Wynne, now living; Robert Wynne, who lyeth here; Roger Wynne, who lyeth here; William Wynne, now living; Maurice Wynne, now living; Ellis Wynne, who lyeth buried at Whitford, in the county of Flynt; Henry Wynne, now living; Roger Wynne, who lyeth here; and two daughters; Mary, now living, married to Sr. Roger Mostyn, in the County of Flynt, Knight; and Elizabeth, now living, married to Sr. Iohn Bodvill, in the county of Carnarvon, Knight.

Beneath which is a superb Engraving of Dame Sarah Wynne, one of the Daughters of the old Chevalier, Sir Thomas Middleton of Chirk Castle, and the wife of the above-mentioned Sir Richard Wynne: she died June 16, 1671. This piece of engraving was executed by one William Vaughan, in a style of elegance hardly to be met with, and may be justly reckoned among the first productions of the age in which he lived.

On the south side are two stately Pyramidical Columns of variegated Marble, decorated with martial Insignias, one to the memory of Meredith Wynne, the other to Sir John Wynne and Sydney his wife; on their pedestals are Latin inscriptions on black Marble, which have been thus translated:

To the memory of Meredith Wynne, a descendant of Owen Gwynedd, Prince of Wales, who under happy auspices founded

the House of Gwydir, removed and endowed the Church of Sant Gwyddelan, during the third Tournean Expedition, in the fifth year of Henry the Eighth. He died in the month of March 1525.

To the Memory of John Wynne of Gwydir, Knight and Baronet, with Sydney the daughter of William Gerrard, Knight, Chancellor of the Kingdom of Ireland, the wife of his youth, to whom she bore eleven sons, and two daughters, they lie here waiting the appearance of Christ in Glory.

Between the above Monuments is a small tablet of white marble to the memory of John Wynne ap Meredith, and a Latin inscription to the following effect:—

John Wynne ap Meredith, an Inheritor of his Father's virtues, a just and pious Man, to whom Euna his wife brought five sons and two daughters. He died the 9th of July 1559.

On the floor is a stone effigy in armour, with the feet resting on a Lion couchant, of Howell Coetmore ap Griffith Vychan ap Dafydd Gam, alias Goch, natural son to David Prince of Wales, from whose descendants, according to tradition, Gwydir was purchased by the Wynnes.

Near to the effigy of Howell Coetmore, is the underpart of a stone coffin in which Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, surnamed the Great, the son-in-law of King John, was buried at the Abbey of Conwy; to the coffin is fixed a piece of brass with this inscription:—

This is the coffin of Leolinus Magnus, Prince of Wales, who was buried at the Abbey of Conwy, which upon the dissolution was removed thence.

On going from the Chapel to the Church you pass over a large square flag of freestone, having on its sides a Latin inscription thus translated:—

To the memory of the Sons of John Wynne of Gwydir, Knight and Baronet, who died during their father's life time: John, knight, was buried at Luca, in the free State of Italy, in the year of his age 30, of our Lord 1613. Robert, who had entered holy orders, in the year of his age 24, of our Lord 1617. Thomas: Roger: Thomas: in their minority.—Death! A Vapour! Behold! We have existed.

In the Chancel between the reading-desk and the communion table is a flag of freestone, on the remains of Margaret Vaughan, heiress of Caergai: she was esteemed the Sappho of her age. Many of her poetical productions are still extant.

The carved oak gallery is said to have been removed here from the Abbey of Aberlechog, or Maenan Abbey, upon the dissolution of that religious house.

Under the above mentioned gallery, in the church, in a pew belonging to Kyffyd, is a Latin epitaph to the memory of Griffith Lloyd, of Bryniog, rector of this parish; this is said to have been written by himself, and has been much admired for its singularity; it runs thus:—

Once the undeserving School-Master,
Then the more undeserving Lecturer,
And last of all, the most undeserving
Rector of this Parish.

Do not think, speak, or write any thing
evil of the Dead.

The foregoing is copied from a folio sheet issued some years ago by 'Jones, Printer, Llanrwst,' and sold, I believe, to visitors to the Gwydir Chapel. N.W.S.

QUERIES.

MARY G. LEWIS.—R. Inglis asks, in *Notes and Queries*, Apr. 20, 1872, if this lady (who is the authoress of 'Cardiff Castle, a drama,' also, 'Gwenlleian, a tale,' &c.) is a native of the Principality, and whether alive. TAFFY.

SYMON MYTTON OF SHREWSBURY.—Who was he? I met with his name the other day while searching the Registers of St. Andrew's fine old Church, Plymouth. The entry therein runs as follows:—"Symon Mytton, of Shrewsbury, bur. 25 feb. 1601." I cannot find his name in Burke's pedigree of the Myttons of Halston. In the same Registers I find the following, which has a very strong smack of Denbighshire or Flintshire origin:—"Mr. Lewis Amerydeth buried 20th April, 1624." T. HUGHES.

Chester.

THE SALWEYS OF LUDLOW.—The following is given in a collection of monumental inscriptions that appeared in vol. 79 of the *Gents' Mag.* p. 37:—

In memory of Theophilus Salwey, Esq., who was the eldest son of Edward Salwey, Esq., a younger son of Major Richard Salwey, who in the last century sacrificed all and everything in his power in support of Public Liberty, and in opposition to Arbitrary Power. The said Theophilus Salwey married Mary the daughter and heiress of Robert Dennet of Walthamstow, in the County of Essex, Esq., but has no issue by her. Obitt the 23th of April 1760, ætat. 61 Pro Rege scæpe; pro Republica semper.

What were this gentleman's services in the support of liberty, and what relation was the late Vicar of Oswestry to him? TELL.

REPLIES.

A WELSH MUSICAL CHILD (Aug. 14, 1878). Miss Randles was daughter of the organist at Wrexham, and was a very beautiful performer on the harp. F.

RE-ISSUE OF PENNANT'S TOURS (Oct. 2, 1878).—I have long been of the same mind as your correspondents upon the desirability of having a re-issue of this work. It is scarcely to be regretted that the attempt referred to by "W.F." proved a failure; for both the state of art in 1836, as well as the archaeological information of that day would never have satisfied us at this. I suggest that the Committee of the Cambrian Archaeological Association give the subject some attention. T.W.H.

MADE UP HISTORY (Sep. 25, 1878).—In reply to EDWIN DE LACY and in reference to his first query, he will find in *Brut y Tywysogion* under the year 1115, the original out of which the paragraph relating to Denbigh has been compiled, it is scarcely necessary to say that Denbigh is not mentioned in the *Brut*. There is no mention of the *De Lacy* bands either. No doubt Dr. James will reply to the other query, namely, what Prince Llewelyn could that be who in 1212 possessed "a hold on Denbigh and the four Cantreds," but EDWIN DE LACY might without much difficulty have settled the point for himself on reference to Eyton's *Shropshire* or Bridgman's *Princes of Upper Powys*, where he would have seen recorded on undoubted authority that Llewelyn died in 1240, not 1210. PEARMAIN.

BEDD-Y-CAWR (Sep. 18, 1878).—This relic of Llanymynech Hill is not so well known at the present time as it has been in former years. When the brothers Faine removed the Cromlech from its pedestals, it was placed on its side across the grave. In this position it remained until a short time ago, when it was missing, and the probability is, that the quarrymen broke it in pieces, and took it to a neighbouring lime-kilns. The mound upon which it was placed still remains, and two large hollows on either side, where the men are supposed to have dug in search of the golden torque. The tradition.

of the two brothers is still remembered by a few of the older inhabitants. An attempt to describe the exact spot where the Cromlech stood would be useless, but if "N.W.S." wishes to visit it, I should feel pleasure in accompanying him at any convenient time.

Llanymynech. J. FEWTRELL.

CURRENT NOTES.

The chief topic of interest discussed at the annual meeting of the Powys-land Club, on Thursday, was the visit of the Cambrian Archæological Association to Welshpool in 1879. It is twenty-two years ago since the Association made Welshpool its head-quarters, and then the weather was so bad the members could not do justice to the rich district by which they were surrounded. It is satisfactory to know that if the weather should be equally perverse in 1879, the archæologists will at least have a local museum of great interest to occupy their attention, and, as the Secretary of the Association pointed out, a gentleman at hand, in the person of Mr. Morris Jones, well qualified to describe its valuable and varied contents. The nucleus of a good committee had been already formed to make arrangements for the meeting, and there can be little doubt that the members of the Association will receive a cordial welcome to Welshpool. The affairs of the Powys-land Club call for little comment. The Club is in the full tide of a prosperous career, and unusually happy both in its president and its honorary secretary.

The *Athenæum* says—Dean Howson, to whom and the late Sir G. G. Scott the world owes the new Cathedral at Chester, recently stated in public that the works had cost from 1868 to 1876 not less than £90,000!—3,000 is still required. The speaker added that the cathedral "should be preserved as a great historical monument, associated with distinguished names in history—royal names and ecclesiastical names during the period extending from 1100 to 1500." This was once possible but now, alas! all that was historical and pathetic has been banished from the building at the cost of £90,000. Nobody can care for the present Cathedral as an historical monument; yet all that was really needed for the preservation of the old church in a genuine condition might have been done by an engineer for a tenth part of £90,000.

Last week Mr. John Cordy Jeaffreson delivered a lecture on the Ancient Historic Manuscripts of Chester, at the opening meeting of the Session of the Chester Archæological Society. Mr. Jeaffreson has been engaged in investigating the Chester Records for the Historical Manuscripts Commission, and he told an amusing story in the course of his lecture. "During the first part of his work he was somewhat hindered by the number of American visitors who came to see old Chester. He thought he must have had about thirty or forty per cent. of these American visitors talking with him, and sometimes hindering his work. One gentleman said to him, 'I guess they are rather an old lot of documents you have got hold of?' He said, 'Yes, they are.' 'I should not wonder if there are some three or four hundred years old?' 'Yes, there are some three or four hundred years old' (going on with his writing.) Said the American: 'Well, are there any five hundred?' He said: 'Yes, there are some five.' 'Upon my honour,' said the American, 'well, now, are there any six hundred?' He replied: 'Yes, there are some that are six hundred.' 'Are there any seven hundred?' asked the American. 'Yes,' he replied, 'there are some seven.' 'Come now,' said the stranger, 'you are talking wild.'"

Professor Macfarren has addressed a letter to Mr. John Thomas (Pencerdd Gwallia), in which he makes the following suggestions for the better arrangement of musical competitions at the Eisteddfod:—I. Were the competition tests to be limited, in each instance, to a single piece, the comparison of the several candidates would be greatly facilitated, the verdict rendered more satisfactory to those by whom it was formed, and the time of the contest proportionally abridged. II. The selection of works for solo competition should be of less length, and less difficulty in some cases, than those recently chosen. III. Prizes in musical composition should be for attempts in the simpler forms of art, rather than for works that can only be undertaken with hope of success by persons whose talent has been largely developed, if not fully matured, by high schooling; thus may be avoided an exposure of the incompetency of candidates by the invitation to write a sonata, which is perhaps the most difficult form of musical structure, whereas a challenge to compose a march or four-part song may elicit a large display of natural talent. IV. The institution of a prize for playing on bowed instruments, either in solo or concerted pieces, would be of high value as an incentive to the study of this branch of music, which would yield the elements of an orchestral band, and so render the most effective support to choral practice. V. A plan might be advantageously devised to certify the eligibility of candidates before, rather than after a competition, so as to prevent the revocation of an award because its recipient was found to be professional instead of non-professional of the subject in which he contended. VI. To close my list of desiderata, let me especially urge the extensive compression of the number of subjects other than musical for which prizes were offered, and let me press this on the consideration of a future committee as a probable means to the necessary end of securing stricter order in the succession of each day's work than seemed to be possible at Birkenhead.—The professor also refers to the great advantage of the encouragement of the cultivation of music by the University College of Wales, and expresses an earnest hope that that branch of culture will not be discontinued there, just at the time when the great English universities are devoting renewed attention to it.

OSWESTRY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

OPENING OF THE NEW WING.

The Oswestry Grammar School has been undergoing a process of renovation and improvement, and a new wing has been added, which was formally opened on Monday, October 7th, by the Earl of Powis, in the presence of a very large number of the Governors and friends of the school. The old school buildings consisted of a school room 50ft. by 20ft., a class room 20ft. by 14ft., a dining room for the boarders 27ft. by 20ft. (which was also used as a class room), a dormitory over known as the barracks, 40ft. by 20ft., and a small room adjoining, the height being 6ft. 9in. at the lowest, and 9ft. at the highest part. The other dormitories were at the top of the Head Master's house, and were only 7ft. high. These have now been raised to a height of 9ft. 6in., and one of them is turned into a sick room, with nursing appliances adjoining, so that a boy showing any symptoms of illness can be immediately isolated. The Head Master's house has undergone thorough repair from top to bottom, and has also been re-painted and decorated. The new school buildings now consist of the boarders' day and dining room, 27ft. by 20ft., of the four class rooms (three of which are made out of the old school room),

rooms on the ground floor two 20ft. by 14ft., and two 20ft. by 20ft. and 14ft. high, opening into a corridor 6ft. wide, at the end of which is a stone staircase leading to the dormitories, a bootroom, a master's sitting-room, and a schoolroom 49ft. by 22ft., divided in the centre by folding doors, 15ft. high. From this a passage leads to the laboratory, which is a new feature of the school. Under the Master's sitting-room is a chamber from which the baths are heated, the pipes in their upward passage through the bootroom being so arranged as to run under some open lathwork shelves on which the boys' boots are placed to dry. Under part of the schoolroom is a lavatory and store for cricket materials, &c., also a coal store. On the upper floor is a dormitory 59ft. by 22ft., and 10ft. high at the lowest and 13ft. high at the highest part, arranged for twenty beds. The barracks are now turned into a dormitory, 54ft. by 20ft., by 10ft. 6in. high at the lowest, and 13ft. high at the highest part, arranged for eighteen beds. There is a bath-room, and master's bedroom adjoining the dormitories. Great care has been expended on the sanitary arrangements in order to make them as complete as possible. That the ventilation of the school and class-rooms is particularly successful is proved by the fact that during the hot weather this summer, when the boys were in them, the temperature was six degrees lower than the external air. One of the greatest comforts to the masters in teaching is the admirable flooring of the school and class-rooms. It consists of small cubes of wood laid on concrete, with the end of the grain upwards, forming a noiseless, durable, and warm flooring. The total cost of the works was £4,181.

DEATH OF MR. G. H. WHALLEY, M.P.

We regret to announce that Mr. G. H. Whalley, M.P., died at the Tower, near Plasmadoc, at half past eight on Tuesday morning, October 8th.

We learn from "Debrett" that the deceased gentleman was the son of Mr. James Whalley, of Gloucester, by Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Richard Morse, of Gursill, Blakeney, Gloucestershire. He was born in 1813, and was educated at University College, London, where he gained the first prize in rhetoric and logic. In 1846 he married Anne Wakeford, daughter of Mr. Richard Attree, of Blackmore in Selbourne (purchased by Baron Selbourne), Hampshire. He was called to the bar at Gray's Inn, in January, 1839, and went the Oxford circuit, but he subsequently relinquished practice. He was a deputy-lieutenant and justice of the peace of Denbighshire, a justice of the peace of Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire, and captain of Denbighshire Yeomanry Cavalry. At the time of the Crimean war he volunteered the service of his troop, and received the thanks of the War Office. Mr. Whalley was Assistant Tithe Commissioner from 1836 till 1847, Examiner of Private Bills for Parliament, and High Sheriff of Carnarvonshire in 1853. He was author of "The Law of Tithe Commutations" and "Early British History," &c. During the Irish famine, in 1847, he established fisheries on the west coast of Ireland, and, to give employment, in his own yacht explored and ascertained the position of the fishery banks off that coast, for which services he received the thanks of the British Association. He introduced in 1863 a Bill for "Abolishing Committees as a Court for Private Bill Legislation," and in 1865-6, a Bill for "Abolishing Turnpikes in England." He unsuccessfully contested Leominster in 1845, and Montgomery Boroughs in 1852. He sat for Peterborough from November, 1852, till May, 1853, xxx.

when he was unseated on petition; re-elected June, 1853, and again unseated; unsuccessfully contested the same borough in 1857; elected May, 1859, re-elected July, 1863, November, 1863, and February, 1874. He was, Debrett adds, a lineal descendant of Edw. Whalley (first cousin of Oliver Cromwell and John Hampden), who signed the warrant for the execution of Charles I.

OCTOBER 16, 1878.

NOTES.

CAMBRIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY.—Writing on the subject of "A Welsh Prayer Book," on page 93 of the Reprint of *Bye-gones*, "L.J." states that an "old man residing at Llanllyfni," has a copy of a "sixteenth century" edition of *Allwedd* [correctly *Allwydd*] *Paradwys*. "L.J." will, I hope, excuse me when I say that no such edition exists. The only edition of this work is the one printed at *Levyck*=Liege, in the present kingdom of Belgium, in the year 1670, which is fully described in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry*, under that date, pp. 195-197. It is not the author, but myself as editor, is responsible for the statement that a perfect copy of this rare book is preserved at Penmaen Dyfi, near Machynlleth. I had the opportunity of examining that copy before I wrote the note referring to it in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry* (pp. 196, 197.) My own copy, as already stated, is imperfect. The statement made by "L.J." that "an old man residing at Llanllyfni," who greatly values the book, possesses a copy, does not help us much. Without either name or address such information is next to worthless. I believe I may add to my note in the *Llyfrdyddiaeth* that Mr. E. Breese, of Port Madoc, possesses a complete copy of this work; and this is of greater importance when I add that that patriotic gentleman virtually, if not actually, writes *et amicorum* after his own name upon every volume in his most valuable collection of Welsh books, and books relating to Wales. Mr. Allnutt, and all that take an interest in Welsh bibliography, will find the work mentioned by JARCO, Aug. 21, entered and described in *Llyfrdyddiaeth y Cymry*, under the year 1760, No. 1, pp. 456, 457. It appears to me unnecessary to refer to books that are entered and satisfactorily described in that work. Additions and corrections would be valuable, but repetitions are somewhat useless. Let us endeavour to make that volume more complete instead of retailing its contents.

D. SILVAN EVANS.

Llanwrin, Machynlleth, Oct. 9, 1878.

SHREWSBURY SHOW IN 1803.—At this early date—when drunkenness was not looked upon as so degrading a crime as it is in the present day, and public houses were not under the surveillance of the police like ticket-of-leave men,—Shrewsbury Show was not objected to as a scene of debauchery only so far as its surroundings interfered with the comfort of its promoters; and we are told in the *Salopian Journal* of June 15, 1803, that the "good humour and festivity that reigned through the day" was succeeded by the parading of a lawless mob about the streets at night; who took away brass-knockers, tore down sign-boards, rapped at doors, and otherwise did damage or disturbed the inhabitants. SCROBBES BYRIG.

TOPOGRAPHICAL NAMES.—*Erbistock*—Erbi, the first part of this local name, is supposed to be identical with Erby, or Irby and Ireby. It is of uncommon occurrence and uncertain signification. The few instances in which irby and Ireby occur are localities contiguous to rivers or low, wet, or fenny districts, as—

Irby, a township in the parishes of Thurstaston and Woodchurch, Cheshire;
 Irby-in-the-Marsh, and } parishes in Lincolnshire;
 Irby-upon-Humber,
 Ireby, a parish in Cumberland; and
 Ireby, in Domesday Book, Irebi, a township in the parish of Tatham, Lancashire.

As Erbistock is situated on the banks of the Dee, the name may be expressive of its situation. The way in which it is written in Domesday Book relating to Denbighshire is Erpestoch, which affords no clue to the signification of the first part Erbi. Stock, the latter part, is the English form of the Anglo-Saxon stoc, which signifies a place, an enclosure, a wood, as in Stockholm, Stockland, Stockport, Cowlstock, Tavistock and Woodstock.

Gwersyllt.—The township bearing this name appears to have been so called from an ancient encampment in the locality, which was probably that on the banks of the Alyn, near Watt's Dyke. It was situated about a mile south-east from the present village of Gwersyllt, and is believed to have been one of the strongholds of the Cymry to withstand the incursions of the Saxon marauders. Gwersyllt is identical with gwersyll, and is the Welsh term for a military camp.

Broughton.—This occurs as the surname of many families in several English counties. It is also used as a Christian as well as a geographical name. There is therefore no necessity to suggest that the prefix, ty, house, in Ty Broughton, in Flintshire, may refer to the former possible existence of a heathen temple there, in order to account for the origin of the name, because the temple of Baal is called in Scripture the house of Baal, as is done by the Rev. M. H. Lee in last October number of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, p. 273. To speak of the primitive British Druids having temples made with hands, in which to perform their religious rites, is to revive an exploded theory for which there was no foundation in truth. They had in reality no temples other than open air enclosures which were circles of unhewn stones, wherein they celebrated divine worship in the face of the sun and the eye of light. But the object of the present communication is not to treat of the sanctuaries of the Druids and their worship, but to offer some explanation of the etymology and signification of Broughton, which is the name of two hamlets, four townships, four chapels, and eighteen parishes in England, and one village in Scotland. In Domesday Book relating to Flintshire the form in which the name appears is Brochetune and Brochetone, and in that relating to Lancashire, Broctun, Tun in the one and tune in the other of these forms, both being synonymous, and meaning an enclosure, sufficiently explain the import of the latter portion of the name, whilst it is evident that the first part of it is derived from the Anglo-Saxon beorg, beorh, a hill; so that Broughton in reality, pronounced as if written Brawtun, signifies a town, a village, or habitation on a hill. As a suffix to the names of continental towns the form in which brought appears is berg, as in Nuremberg, Bavaria; burg, as in Luxemburg, Holland; and bourg, as in Strasbourg on the Rhine. Camden, in his *Remains*, 1674, p. 144, states on the authority of Alfricus that Borough is pronounced Bury in southern parts of England, and in others, Burgh and Brougt, and often Berry and Barrow. Hence it appears that Borough, Barrow, Bury, Burgh, and Brough were originally interchangeable terms which had one and the same signification when employed by the Anglo-Saxon settlers to form the names bestowed on certain localities, as on the township of Broughton in the parish of Wrexham, and on the township of Broughton in the parish of Hawarden.

LLALLAWG.

QUERIES.

Y MENIN TYLWTH TEG.—This is the name Mr. Pennant, at the end of last century, states was given by the Welsh to Petroleum, rock oil, they found in the lime-stone strata of Flintshire. This "Fairies' Butter," he says, "is a greasy substance, of an agreeable smell." Mr. Pennant also states that "it is esteemed serviceable in rheumatic cases, rubbed on the parts affected." Is this a similar oil to that once converted into a patent medicine by a Salopian? Mr. Pennant speaks of it as retaining "a place in our dispensary." As it had an agreeable smell, I presume it bore no resemblance to the more modern petroleum of commerce? NEMO.

RELICS AT WHITTINGTON CASTLE.—One naturally feels dubious when reading an account of discoveries in the ruins of Shropshire castles, where the recorder is Mr. Parkes, and the locality within the range of Messrs. Dovaston and Lloyd. Was there any truth in the following statement by Mr. P. in the *Gents' Mag.* of Aug. 1814, in reference to Whittington Castle? "In 1797, on removing some rubbish in a part of the ruins, three curious bottles were found, of a depressed form, bearing the appearance of having been highly gilt. Lately, on clearing the bottom of one of the towers, there were found some huge iron fetters, a gyve of ponderous size, and a great quantity of the heads and antlers of deer." A.B.C.

PEARLS IN THE CONWY.—High up the river, above Trevriw, it is said that mussels used to be caught, yielding goodly pearls. Mr. J. O. Halliwell, in a Welsh Tour printed for private circulation, quotes a letter on this subject, written from Nant Francon, in the year 1690:—"As for the pearls found in these mountainous rivers, they are very plentiful, and commonly large; though few of them were coloured; they are found in a large black muscle, peculiar to such rivers. Several ladies of this county and Denbigh-shire have collections of good pearly, found chiefly in the river Conwy. One Mr. Wynne of Bodyskalhen (a gentleman in several respects very curious and ingenious) hath a stool-pearle out of the river, as big as the kernell of a field-berd, much of the colour of a common blew agat, but with two white circles: one at the basis (if I well remember) and the other about the midst of it. Common people call the muscels, wherein they are found, by a name signifying deluge-shells: as if nature had not intended shells for the rivers, but being left there at the universall flood they had bred there, and soe propagated their kind ever since. They know whether a muscle have a pearle in it before they open it; for such as have it are allways contracted and somewhat distorted from their usuall shape." Pearls, of a small and inferior kind, are found to this day, I believe, at the mouth of the river. Have any really good ones rewarded modern hunters? Any like the one said to have been presented by Sir Richard Wynn of Gwydir to Charles the Second's Queen? N.W.S.

REPLIES.

OLD FOLKS (Sep. 18, 1878).—I am not sure whether you have given any record of the following "Old Folks," if not, the information will be interesting to your readers:—

The following advertisement appeared in 1678 from the pen of William Morris, the great antiquarian of Cefnbraich—"An unheard of Morrice dance is to be celebrated on the grave mount of Rhuddwyn Gawr Mawr, a Kymrian Giant, of sixty feet in length, and nine in height above the ground, by Marsli Hen, aged 140."

Hugh Sandland, died at Llangedwyn, Nov. 22, 1734, aged 110 years.

Margaret Edwards, of Berriew, Montgomeryshire, died 1765, aged 102.

Hugh Llywelyn of Llangadwaladr died 1790, aged 115 years. He was considered an excellent harpist, and well-known in the surrounding counties. He played on his favourite instrument within a fortnight to his death.

Lewis Davies, Ruthin, died in 1815, aged 103 years.

Evan Price, Dolgelly, died in 1753, aged 120 years.

Peter Lloyd, who was a descendant of the Lloyds of Pentrehobyn, near Mold, was agent to Sir Watkin at Llangedwyn. It is related that the Baronet whilst shooting grouse one day in August, on the Berwyn mountains, lost his way, and was obliged to call at one of the farm houses in the neighbourhood. The kind woman brought refreshments including milk to drink—remarking that she had seen the day when she could quench his thirst with beer. "What is the reason that you could not do so now," enquired the Baronet? "Because my landlord has risen my rent," was the reply. "Who is your landlord?" "Sir Watkin," answered the woman. "You come to Llangedwyn next Monday, and I will speak to the Baronet in your favour." On Monday, Peter Lloyd was sent for, to meet the woman, when matters were straightened, the money that was overcharged was at once returned, and the steward dismissed. Another farmer complained under the same pressure in the following cutting couplet—

Ni chawn dy, gwely nag aelwyd,
Petat ar law Peter Llwyd.

However, Lloyd lived for a great number of years after this occurred, and was highly respected until his death, which took place about a hundred years since at Llanfyllin, at the age of 109 years. LLYWARCH HEN.

[The other parties mentioned by our correspondent have already been mentioned in *Bye-gones*. And the tombstone over a "William Sandland" aged 106, who was buried at Selattyn in 1761, was referred to Dec. 2, 1874.—ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

At the annual conversation of the Chester Society of Natural Science, Mr. J. C. Jeaffreson gave some interesting details of his examination of the city records and other interesting documents. One of them was a grant by the wardens and brothers of the friars minors of Chester to the merchants and sailors of Chester of the perpetual use of the naves and aisles of the Church of the Convent for storing up their sails and all other necessities connected with their ships, and as a convenient place for repairing the same, on condition that henceforth the merchants and sailors did as they had hitherto done, keep the naves and aisles in repair. That was a very interesting document, because it helped them upon a point on which more evidence was wanted. It related to the use of the secular parts of our churches in old times. The Puritan use of the naves and aisles of the old churches, especially the nave, was thought a profanation. But, Mr. Jeaffreson explained, "it was a new idea that the entire building should be regarded with a sentiment of reverence. The church in mediæval times in Western Europe was the common home of the people. The church was used as a place for social gathering, promenading, meetings of friends, for fairs when the weather was foul, secular business of an innocent kind, and marriage feasts, and any other gathering of social interest found its home in the nave of the church. The nave, speaking deliberately and not flippantly, was the common hall of the parish, to which was attached the chancel, and to that was added that sentimental reverence which in modern times was directed to the whole of the building."

A HOLIDAY IN CARDIGANSHIRE.

The Lampeter meeting being virtually over, the Rev. Charles Chidlow, the Rev. D. R. Thomas, and the writer of these lines determined to spend a few days on an exploring expedition on the mountains by themselves. The opportunity for executing this project was entirely due to Mr. Chidlow, who knew the ground, and offered every hospitality to his two companions. The points chosen for exploration on Saturday, August 24, were Bryn-mawr, Esgair-Fraith, Craig-pillbo, Craig-twrch, &c., situated some ten or twelve miles east of Lampeter. These places are reached by the steep and often rugged old Roman road named Sarn Helen; the roadway is even now as perfect in many places, with large slabs of stone, as when first made. The mountains, and even the mountain-tops, are everywhere boggy.

The hills, of course, are marked on the ordnance map, as are many of the cairns in this district, but on making a careful examination of the first place reached about Craig-pillbo, it became manifest that we were on the ruins of an ancient British town of great size. Ruinous hut-circles were dotted over the mountain sides (generally in groups) in scores if not hundreds. Cairns (often more or less thrown down) were met with in many new positions, whilst kist-vaens (ancient graves of stone) were seen in plenty. At one position there was a huge overturned cromlech, with a prostrate capstone ten feet long. In many places the grassy surface had been disturbed, and although all these places were searched over, as well as all parts of the hills traversed, yet they did not produce a single worked instrument of stone, or a single flake of stone struck off by man. Many of the kists, cairns, and stone-huts had been demolished for making walls; for this purpose many hundreds, if not thousands, of loads of stone had been taken from these pre-historic structures. A rustic told us that a skull had been found amongst some of the stones.

Sunday, August 25, was spent in a quiet way, in first listening to a Welsh sermon, and then noting the objects near the vicarage at Caio, close to which building there was growing a fine edible Giant Puffball (*Lycoperdon giganteum*). Noticed for the first time that in exposed positions the house-martin builds two lateral bracket-like supports to hold the nest of mud firmly up against the eaves; in some instances the supports are almost invisible, in others they are large and distinct, one on each side. *Sedum Rhodiola* is a very common plant in the hedges about Caio, where it grows in company with *Oxalis Acetosella*.

When Monday, August 26, arrived, the two reverend archæologists dressed themselves in old clothes in readiness for rough work. The first place experimented upon was an immense ditched tumulus, 60 feet in diameter from centre to centre of ditch. Upon the tumulus is a truly gigantic stone prostrate, of quartz conglomerate, 17 feet 6 inches long and 4 feet 6 inches square; it is termed the Carreg-y-bwgi—the Bogey or Goblin Stone. One piece has been blasted off with gunpowder, and a neighbouring farmer, in a fit of unparalleled liberality, has offered 5s. to any one who will split the stone into pieces. An excavation of considerable size was made in the mound, which disclosed a series of stones radiating from the centre. Under 12 inches of mould there were 12 inches of red clay, with fragments of burnt wood, and under this a stratum of grey marly clay brought from a distance; the lower bed of fine

clay was no doubt the bed upon which the bodies of the dead chieftains were laid, but every trace of the bodies had vanished, and no pottery, worked stones, flakes, or objects of human manufacture whatever, were found. We were told by our three assistants that if we disturbed the mounds and cairns we should be overtaken by fearful storms, and, as if to prove the truth of this common belief in Wales, we were directly afterwards overtaken by a drenching storm of rain and driving wind. Mr. Chidlow unwisely refreshed the assistants with claret, and it had a bad effect, for it made the men suspicious: they had not tasted claret before, and they took it for some Mephistophelean compound better avoided than drunk, and over which they made grimaces horrible to behold. After the tumulus, four kist-vaens, under what had once been cairns, were carefully opened: with the assistance of the pickaxe, the crowbar, and the shovel, the covering stones were removed, and the stone chambers which once enclosed the dead exposed. One was a double kist for two interments; the chambers were about 3 feet by 2 feet, and 1 foot 6 inches deep, this gave sufficient room for the dead body, as the bodies were nearly always buried on their sides, with one hand under the face, and the knees drawn up to the chin. In every instance the bed of fine clay was found, but in no instance was there the slightest trace of the body or of any manufactured object. The nature of the soil, and the constant heavy rains passing over these hills, would be more than sufficient to destroy every trace of a body laid in the grave so many centuries back. A writer in the *Athenæum* last year denied that there were any grounds for placing a very high antiquity, i.e., more than say about 2,000 years, on some of these structures in Wales, especially in North Wales; but there are reasons, in the extreme rudeness of the structures, in the almost total absence of worked stones and instruments about the positions, and there is a philological reason in the name by which the hut circles are known, viz., *Cyttiau Gwyddelod*. This term to some thinkers indicates the presence on these positions of a pre-Celtic race, as the words mean the huts or styes of the Gaels or foreigners, and not of the forefathers of the Celts themselves. By the time the kists and huts had been examined the whole mountain was enveloped in clouds, and such a terrific Woolhopean downfall of rain and driving wind had rarely been expended on the most weather-beaten of the three men, who now returned to a somewhat late dinner at Caio at 9:30 p.m.

It had been arranged to visit Traws-nant and Brynglas on the following day, but Mr. Chidlow's horse was so tired that it was decided to make the next mountain day Wednesday instead of Tuesday, especially as Mr. J. M. Davies, of Ffroodvale, had asked the three resurrectionists to dinner on the Tuesday. A visit was therefore made to the ruins of Talley Abbey (Tal-y-llychau), the old bell of which is now in Exeter Cathedral. Near the Abbey there are some truly magnificent ash trees; one of these, which is known to be 150 years old, measures more than thirty feet in circumference at four feet from the ground. A few years ago several hundreds of human skeletons were dug out of the ground close to the tower of the Abbey. Amongst plants growing amid the ruins may be mentioned the elder and gooseberry, the hemlock, *Chelidonium majus*, and *cotyledon umbilicus*. A visit was also made to Llansawel and its Fern-clad church, with its Norman font, its three built up squinches, and its curious seat in the south wall. During the drive to this place many species of fungi were observed, and especially a magnificent group of *Boletus Satanus* in a hedge. This fungus appears to be a rare plant, the writer can only remember

finding it once before, and then near Winchester. It seems to be a good and well-marked species, with blood-red tubes and a livid-white top. On being touched it immediately changes to red, then blue. It is said to be a dangerous plant, as its names indicates, but snails appear to eat it with a relish. *B. purpureus*, *B. luridus*, and *B. erythropus* were found during the same drive. We were very kindly received in the evening at Ffroodvale by Mr. and Mrs. Davies.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, was the last day of real hard work, and then the Rev. J. A. Williams, of Llansawel, joined the party (on horseback). This party consisted of the Rev. D. R. Thomas, the Rev. C. Chidlow, the writer, and at length a learned blacksmith to show the way. A stoppage was made at Aber-branddu to examine a gigantic old yew, now preyed upon by *Polyporus sulfureus*, and to inquire after an old stone not then to be found. From this place the unfrequented road became uncommonly bad, and the carriage was put up at the farm. The mountain scenery, with its torrents of water, is here grand in the extreme; a ledge of Roman age leading to Dole-Cothy is cut on the rocks to the right, and the heights are here and there impressively dotted with cairns belonging to the stone age. Not far from Aber-branddu there is a deep and dangerous gorge and echoing waterfall. The road from here to Traws-nant is of the most complicated and contrary nature—often steep and stony, and then so wet and boggy that it is only by a special providence that the traveller does not get up to his middle in slush. The streams sometimes flow down the roads as their natural bed. The scattered farmers use vehicles of the sledge sort, without wheels, for greater convenience in ascending and descending the hills. Various cairns were visited, sketched, and measured; one was oval, 45 by 36 feet—one was covered with earth, and a third had been demolished to build the walls of a farmhouse. At our nearest point to Traws-nant there was a magnificent crop of the edible and delicious *Agaricus rachodes* growing on the rotten thatched roof of an old stable. Near here a most interesting relic of very ancient ploughing was seen on the top of the mountainous hill named *Bryn-glas*; no habitations are now near the place, and it can only be reached with difficulty; the ancient furrows are not regular and parallel, they come to a point on one side of the hill summit. The object of the visit was to reach a kist-vaen on Traws-nant, and for this purpose the pick, the shovel, and the crow-bar were again brought into service; the result was the same as in the other instances, the last bed of fine clay was easily laid bare, but no relics of or belonging to the late occupant were to be seen. During the whole time of the visit to Lampeter district not the slightest trace of a stone instrument, flake, spall, nucleus, or waster could be lighted upon.

On driving home in the darkness one could not but call to mind the great kindness and consideration shown to the archaeologists in the Lampeter district, not only by the well-to-do, whose motto always is (or should be) noblesse oblige, but also from the poorest of the poor who had little to give. More than once the sketchers and diggers were so famished with hunger and thirst that anything in the form of bread and drink was most welcome. In the poorest hill-side cottages bread and butter and milk were generously given to four or five hungry men, and no gratuity was looked for. It was sometimes only possible to hurriedly place some coins in the hand of a child and gallop off. The London hucksters and their coarse sons and stupid wives and daughters have not yet contaminated the district. May it be long before they reach the hilly and boggy places north, east, south, and west of Lampeter.—W. G. Smith in *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

OCTOBER 23, 1878.

NOTES.

EMINENT WELSHMEN.—Any one who will take the trouble to go through the various newspapers and serials of more than half a century old will be struck with the number of "eminent" natives of the Principality there must have been who have been overlooked by Mr. Williams! One I mentioned myself in *Bye-gones* of Jan. 23, and reference has been made to others. Two instances occur in the *Gents' Mag.* of Mar. 1813, viz.:—"Mrs. Hughes, relict of the late Rice Hughes, Esq., of Commes, Montgomeryshire," and "Helicon Lloyd, the sweet singer of Merioneth." The latter is styled "the darling of his country," and the fact that he corresponded with the former is given as a proof of Mrs. Hughes's attainments. Brought up "under the fostering care of an indulgent father, a clergyman of the most primitive simplicity of manners, and an apostolic sanctity of life; who on an income of £100 a year brought up a family of nine children," she early exhibited several specimens of poetic genius, "which would do no discredit to the most refined taste, and the most admired votary of the Muses." Her cheerful demeanour "procured her the quaint, but appropriate, appellation of *sal volatile*." She died in Feb. 1813.

ANON.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Oct. 2, 1878.)

Md. xx° die Junij A° dmi 1572 A° R. R. Elizabeth & xiiij° yt is concluded and agreed by the bayliffes aldermen and other burgesses of the said towne that Thomas Yveson in consideration of the some of iiij li wch he hath undertaken to pay to the use of the said towne shalbe at his lib'tie to dwell without the lib'ties of the said town the order heretofore taken to the contrarie thereof not with standing so y't he do beare scott and lott with the said burgesses as a fore'n burgess when and as often he shalbe thereunto required during his contynuacion without the lib'ties of the said towne.

Ryc' Lloyd baylif

Rich. Willmot debyt'.

Md. that the day aforesaid it is concluded & agreed upon by the said bayliffes aldermen & burgesses that Thomas Hamner gent. in consideration of the some of xxs. wch he hath undertaken to pay to the use of the said towne at any tyme that he shalbe thereunto required shalbe from hensforth at his lib'tie to dwell without the lib'ties of the said towne (the order heretofore taken to the contrarie thereof notwithstanding) so that he do beare scott and lott w'th the said burgesses as a foren burgess whenev'r & as often as he shalbe hereunto required during his dwelling without the lib'ties of the said towne

Ryc Lloyd Bayliff

Rich Willmot debyt.

Md. that the day aforesaid y't is concluded and agreed upon by the said bayliffes aldermen and burgesses that John ap M'redith ap Ho'll ap Badyr in consideration of the some of xxs. wch he has undertaken to pay to the use of the said towne at any tyme y't he shalbe thereunto required shalbe from hensforth at his lib'tie to dwell without the lib'ties of the said towne (the order heretofore taken to the contrary thereof notwithstanding) so y't he do beare scott and lott w'th the said burgesses as a foren burgess when and as often he shalbe thereunto required during the tyme of his dwelling without the lib'ties of the said towne.

Ryc lloyd bayliffe

Rich Willmott debyt.

Md. That John Hossier of Woodcottesonne legitimate to Thomas Hossier of the Sextorie in the towne of Salopp cam befor Richard Stanney and Jo'n Wynne gent. Bayliffes of the towne of Oswestree the xiiijth daye of november a'o. R.R. Elizabeth dei gra' angl' &c xvo and others the aldermen & other burgess and their chalanged his burgeshippe and freedome And for cleming And entering as well his name as also his sonnes Thomas Hossier./ Geoffrey Hossier. Edward and George Hossiers who he affirmeth to be legitimate And for his entrance he paid

xxs.

Rychard Stanney } bayliffes
John wyn }

decimo tertio die octobris Anno

Regni Regnie Eliz. dei gra' &c. xvij^o

At wch daye Ric willms David Edds gen bailiffs for the yere ensuinge have p'used and vewed all the charters Rec'd by them the yere befoore with all other Billes mynynments conteyned in certeyn boxes & remayn'g in the comon chest in the burgess hall, wch being vewed & perused was Delliv'ed on an order to Jo'n ap thomas morton and willm ap Hughe m'ryngers for the yere a 1575. And for the rest of yrons keys & locks they the said bayliffes Rec'd & Delliv'ed to their chardge of their S'rgeantes videlicet Thom's gr [gruff] & Rich'd James

Richyd willms

Edd Edwards

John Lloyd

Teste R. gruffithes Clr.

Itm Rec'd by the meryngers to their custodie the xvth daye of June one order made by the comysioners of the kyng Henry oct. lat of famous memorye Bearing date at the pole (?) xvj° die Julij a° R.R. Regis Henrici octavi Tricesimo.

Md that Rich willms and David Edds gent bayliffes of this said towne for this yere beinge have purchased a to other meares of the scale lands and between the said schole lands as are in Sweyny and trevelche and the landes of John hamner esqr Robe't Tanat gent Edward ap Rich ap Ho'll and Richard Lewes viz.

xiiij° Daie Junij a° 1576.

John Davies gent

Ric Lloyd of Sweyne gent

Thom's ap Edd

David ap nicholas

Io'n ap David ap Jeu'n ap Roger

Randall ap thom's

Io'n ap Edd ap Hughe

David ap ho'll ap Rich

Thom's David ap Rich

David ap Io'n ap Rich

Io'n ap wm of westyn

David ap Io'n wyynn.

QUERIES.

WELSH EVENTS.—Is there published anywhere an Almanack, the calendar of which is devoted exclusively to the record of Welsh events? If no such calendar exists would it be desirable to compile one? I am inclined to think it would. Having made the suggestion, the details of the scheme will so readily occur to you that I would only say that to my thinking the "Red Letter Days" should be those of the Saints of the old British—or Welsh—Church: as far as they can be ascertained. Local almanacks at present are local only in name. The calendar has no local colouring whatever. On my plan the local

colouring would be strong, and it could be made to include village wakes and other festivals peculiar to a given district. One advantage of this would be that a record of the days on which these old world festivals fall would thus be obtained, and, as these observances have fallen so completely into disuse, some trace of their existence will thus be preserved for the gratification of the antiquaries of the xth century.

D.J.

London.

[Our correspondent's idea pleases us so well that we purpose making an attempt to put it in practice; and we herewith invite the assistance and advice of contributors, for an almanack for 1879. Records of any events in Welsh and Border History will be gratefully received by the editor of *Bye-gones*.]

MOEL MEIRCH, OR MERCH.—In *Two Years Ago*, Kingsley mentions the Maiden's Mount (Moel Merch), referring evidently, I think, to the mountain marked on the Ordnance Map Moel Meirch (the Horses' Mountain). Can any of your readers say which is the correct name? The mountain is on the boundary of Carnarvon and Merionethshire, and opposite Y Wyddfa, on the other side of the Vale of Gwynant.

E.W.

A PARISH CLERK OF WELSHPOOL.—The death, in Aug. 1809, is recorded of Jacob Humphreys, the Parish Clerk of Welch-Pool. We are told he was found dead in his bed, to which he went overnight in perfect health. The record goes on to say:—"It is a singular circumstance of this family, that they have discharged the duties of parish-clerk of that parish for more than two hundred years last past; and that every one of them so officiating has been of the name of Jacob Humphreys; and that Jacob Humphreys, the son of the last deceased, who is a sergeant in the Montgomeryshire Militia, is now on his journey to that town, with well-formed hopes of succeeding his late father in that office." Was he successful?

TAFKY.

PHEASANTS IN SHROPSHIRE.—When did gentlemen begin to breed Pheasants? In looking over a file of newspapers for 1802, I find sundry advertisements which lead to the supposition that the practice commenced shortly before that date. On Sep. 14, "Lord Berwick requests the gentlemen in the neighbourhood that they will continue their directions to their keepers and others to forbear shooting the Pheasants, and that the Tenants will also use their endeavours to preserve them; the breed having greatly increased in the country, owing to the attention hitherto paid to their preservation." On the following week we are told that "Sir Richard Hill, and Mr. Hill of Prees, as also Major Hill of Hardwick, having turned out several Pheasants, and being desirous to stock the neighbourhood with them, earnestly request all qualified Persons not to destroy or molest them." In both addresses Poachers—or "unqualified persons" as they are politely called, are warned of the terrors of the Law if they interfere with the game.

TELL.

REPLIES.

WELSH SIGN-BOARDS (Sep. 11, 1878.)—The *Aleppo Merchant*, Carno. Driving from Borth to Oswestry in the summer of 1874, I halted at this inn, and being somewhat "tickled" with its title, I made some enquiries and was informed that the house was built many years ago by a gentleman who had been successful in the Levant trade, hence the "*Aleppo Merchant*." I was further told that formerly a full rigged ship (whether a model or simply painted I cannot say) overhung the present board. The inn is noted for a pudding, the chief ingredient being

currants—its goodness I can vouch for. Perhaps the Carno pudding was instituted by the *Aleppo Merchant* by way of encouraging the use of Sultanias!

E.T.

We are told in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales* that "a Mr. Farr, who made his fortune as a Merchant of Aleppo, settled at Plasslyssin, and built the *Aleppo Merchant*."

G.G.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Oct. 2, 1878).—The writer of the communication signed "F" at this date is wrong, I think, in supposing that *Mrs. Barrett*, who died at Bath in 1803, was ever married. When she died her property (of which, if I remember rightly, *Mrs. Wainwright's* farm at Sweeney formed part) became the property of a Col. Disbrowe. In Price's *History of Oswestry*, p. 107, the following monumental inscription in the Old Church is given:—

Vaughan Barrett, Esq., died 17th Oct., 1772, aged . . years: Mary, relict of Vaughan Barrett, Esq., daughter of Thomas Kynaston, Esq., of Maesbury Hall, in the county of Salop, died 28th May, 1779, aged . . years: Elizabeth, daughter of Vaughan and Mary Barrett, died 6th March, 1792, aged 58 years: Letitia, daughter of Vaughan and Mary Barrett, died 25th March, 1803, aged 71 years. This testimony of affection and regard is erected to their memory by Edward Disbrowe, Esq., of Walton-upon-Trent, in the county of Derby.

This will also form a reply to OSWALD, who asks on July 31, "Who was *Mrs. Barrett*, and who were her tenants?"

C.R.

STRAY NOTES.

Mr. Evan James, of Pontypridd, the writer of the well-known song, "*Hen Wlad fy Nhadau*," the music of which his son James composed, died a few days ago.

In "*English Folk Lore*," a book recently published by Hardwicke and Bogue, it is recorded that in 1858 a collier's wife applied to the sexton at Ruabon "for ever so small a portion of a human skull, for the purpose of grating it similar to ginger," with the intention of giving the powder to a daughter subject to fits.

The following singular epitaph will be found in Efenectyd churchyard upon the tombstone of Dr. Langford, A.M., late rector of Derwen and Llanellidan, A.D., 1740:—

Farewell, vain world, I've seen enough of thee,
I value not what thou canst say of me;
My head lies quiet here, what faults you've seen in me
Take care to shun and look at home,
There is something to be done.

MACHYNLETH BRIDGE.—The old bridge over the Dovey, at Machynlleth, was carried away during a thunderstorm on the 15th Feb., 1806, and the new bridge was very much damaged.

A CHEAP BARGAIN.—A newspaper of April, 1815, says that William Jones, a pauper, aged 79, who had been married only three weeks, sold his wife for three-half-pence in the public market place at Llanrwst.

THE ANTIENT BRITISH TONGUE.—It is recorded that on April Fools' Day, 1800, the good people of Kendal were hoaxed by a mystic handbill said to be the prognostications of a wizard, and which turned out to be only a simple announcement in Welsh.

THUNDER STORM IN 1811.—During a violent storm of rain, wind, and hail, on the 23rd of April, 1811, more than eleven hundred panes of glass were broken in some green-houses that had just been completed at Wynnstay. Some of the hailstones measured $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference.

GREAT FROST IN SHROPSHIRE.—A frost began on Christmas eve, 1738, and continued until the following March; "the Severn was frozen up, a tent erected thereon, a sheep roasted, and a printing press set to work. A rude engraving of the scene was made."

PUNISHMENT OF CRIME IN 1811.—On the 24th August that year five men were hung at Shrewsbury for robbing the house of Mr. Norcup, of Betton, near Drayton. Their cries on the scaffold are described as being loud and piercing. Their names were John Taylor, James Baker, Isaac Hickman, William Turner, and Abraham Whit-house.

WELSHPOOL AND OSWESTRY.—There was an attempt nearly sixty years ago in some way to connect these towns by direct communication, and we are told that on May 30, 1820, a meeting was held in the Guildhall, Welshpool, to petition the Post-Master General to establish a daily mail from that town to Oswestry, in order to facilitate the intercourse between Montgomeryshire and the Northern counties of England.

The *Gardeners' Chronicle* of Saturday, October 19, contains an engraving of the Boscobel Oak, and the following communication from Mr. A. S. Kemp, of Haughton Hall, Shifnal:—"I paid another visit to this old historical place on July 8, and feel inclined to lay before you one or two facts concerning the Oak tree (of which I send you a photograph) which some say is the self-same tree that sheltered King Charles, and which I contend is not. I may add that one requires a good amount of courage—at Boscobel—to maintain one's own opinion, as it is somewhat irritating to be told at every turn that any one must be an idiot, and that 'one's own plain sense must tell them it is the identical tree.' 'Absurd' and 'ridiculous' are quite mild words expressing their dislike of being even questioned as to its identity. It so happens that my employer, together with two others, in February, 1857, took the girth of the Royal Oak at 4 feet from the ground, and the circumference then was 11 feet 4 inches. I took particularly the circumference at the same height on the day above named, and found it just 12 feet 3 inches. Therefore, in twenty-one years and five months it has increased in girth 11 inches, or nearly exactly half an inch annually. I think you will bear me out in saying that it would have increased in size much faster in its prime, or say during the second hundred years of its existence. It is now 227 years since the event happened which the Oak commemorates (1651), so that at the rate above recorded it would be reduced to a very small tree, if not to an acorn; and it is on record, by the King himself, that the Oak in which he sat had been lopped, but the present tree bears no visible trace of it. I will just give you a few particulars from my pocket-book. Circumference on the ground level, following the indentations of the tree, 19 feet 5½ inches; ditto, tape on stretch, 15 feet 7 inches; at 4 feet from the ground, 12 feet 3 inches; at 19 feet from the ground, 9 feet 10 inches; height to the spread of main branches, 21 feet. This terminates what may be termed the trunk of the tree. The main leading branch above this is 7 ft. 6 ins. in circumference. If this is the tree in which his Majesty sat he would be at least 21 feet from the ground, so that it would require a good long nut-hook with which to pass up food to him. The garden at Boscobel was very gay with an assortment of poppies, snapdragons, candytufts, sweet william, roses, &c.; no new-fangled notions are allowed here."

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES IN SHROPSHIRE.—The *Standard* remarks—"When the Act to consolidate the

law relating to weights and measures comes into operation in January next it will be found that in the county of Salop some extraordinary discrepancies still exist. It may hardly be credited, but is nevertheless a fact, that wheat alone is sold by no less than six different weights; barley by nine weights and measures different from each other; oats by four; peas, three; and beans by two. The growers of grain on one side of the county do not actually know the prices their fellow agriculturists are receiving on the other side, and when the quotations for Imperial quarters are given in the reports of Birmingham or Gloucester markets they are read in Shropshire as if written in an unknown tongue. A bushel of wheat in Ludlow and Shrewsbury is 75lb., while at Wolverhampton it is 72; Monmouth, 80; Manchester, 60; and at Bridgend it was, and perhaps is now, 168lb. There is a great discrepancy in butter as well as wheat; a pound in some places is 16oz., in others 18, 19, and 24oz., while in other localities it is sold by the "roll" and the "dish." Potatoes are sold by the "sack" of 160lb., or two bushels of 80lb., each—sometimes the "sack" contains three, four, or five bushels—and sometimes by the bag of 140lb., and by the measure of 84lb., unless long measure is given, when it is 90lb."

OPENING OF LLANFIHANGEL YSTRAD CHURCH.

Situated on an eminence, about half way between Aberaeron and Lampeter, in the beautiful Vale of Aeron, there has stood from time immemorial an edifice dedicated to the worship of God and the honour of St. Michael, whence the small cluster of houses and the extensive parish is named. When the foundation-stone of the first church was laid or by whom is not exactly known. A four-sided font, somewhat rudely ornamented underneath, and having a square excavation to contain the water, found some time ago, is supposed to belong to the first church. It is considered to be about 600 years old. In Meyrick's time, in 1808, the church of Llanfihangel Ystrad consisted of a nave and north aisle, separated from each other by five square pillars, supporting four pointed arches, similar to those in the church of Trefilan. Over the screen, which then separated the chancel from the body of the church, was the inscription:

MILET. C. W. 1672. I.E. ME. FECIT.

Then, as now, several mural tablets were placed in the interior of the church. On the south wall of the nave, on a black stone monument, was the following:—

Near this Place lieth interr'd the remains of Jane the wife of Daniel Evans of Cwmere in this parish, who departed this life June ye 7th 1793 aged 28; and also John his son, who died July 21st 1793, aged 2 months.

When God cuts off the thread of life
Then cruel death parts man and wife."

Close by was another tablet to the memory of John Richard, of Hendre Lâs, who died on July the 29th, 1731, aged 55 years, and Mary Davies, Hendre Lâs, who died January 9th, 1791, aged 19 years. Besides these there was a monument over the altar bearing the arms of Vaughan, and the inscription: "Sacred to the memory of the Honourable Lady Dorothy Dowager Viscountess Lisburne, who departed this life the 26th of November, 1791, in the 87th year of her age. Her Ladyship was remarkable for her humanity, and ever employed in works of Beneficence and Charity; and also Elizabeth, her Ladyship's Granddaughter, and Daughter to Edward Vaughan, of Green Grove, Esq., who departed this life, the 20th day of May, 1778, in the 6th year of her age." Between thirty and forty years ago, when the Rev. T. M. Davies was

vicar, the church underwent a restoration, and was afterwards opened, it is believed, by the good Bishop Burgess, the then Bishop of St. David's, and the founder of the College at Lampeter; and the building was used for public worship, with very little alteration, until about four years ago, when its dilapidated state was made more prominent by the tide of church restoration which began to sweep over Cardiganshire a few years ago. It was then that Captain Vaughan, of Brynogy, who now acts as churchwarden with Mr. John Jordan Jones, took the subject up, and, aided by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. Evan Morgan, he has succeeded in restoring the church. The edifice is said now to stand upon the same ground as that occupied by a former, and, until this, grander building; but the walls of the old church, as far as possible have been built into the new church. The old windows, doors and roofs have been replaced by new ones, and the walls well cleaned and pointed, and the consequence is that the sacred building looks as if it had for the first time just left the builder's hands. The architect was Mr. Middleton, of Cheltenham, and the builder Mr. David Davies, near Llandyssul. The church is in the early English Decorated style. It consists of chancel and nave, a side aisle separated, as in the old church, by a row of light pillars, and an organ chamber, and it is built to accommodate about 250 persons. There is no tower, but provision has been made for the erection of one in the future. From the western end of the church, looking towards the chancel, the appearance of the building is very pretty. The east window over the altar is filled in by a representation of the crucifixion with two figures on each side, placed there by Captain Vaughan in commemoration of his deceased relatives, some of whom occupy the family vault under the chancel. Below this window is a beautiful reredos of freestone with dark marble pillars, the style in keeping with that of the building. It is erected by the three children of the Rev. Mr. Griffiths, late vicar of Trefilan and Ystrad. In the central portion is a cross, and on either side the initials of Alpha and Omega. The church was formally opened on Tuesday, Oct. 22, when the Bishop of St. David's preached.

LAYING THE MEMORIAL STONE OF LLANYCHAIARN CHURCH.

The ancient parish church of Llanychaearn with its dilapidated porch and stone steps, shaded by a yew tree of centuries' growth, standing on an eminence over-hanging a beautiful curve of the river Ystwyth, the banks of which are here adorned with perennial verdure, backed up by the distant hills, was a picture on which the artist, and even the more practically-minded, looked with pleasure and satisfaction so far as it was regarded from that point of view. Looked at, however, as a place of worship, it was considered unsuited to the times and inconvenient, so it has been swept away to make room for a new church, and with it, though it was done with much regret, the fine old yew tree which stood at the western end of the old building very likely from the time when the foundations were first laid. The old church was dedicated to St. Llŵychaearn, a saint who lived in the seventh century. As in other churches in the county, the interior walls bore several monuments, some of them of a quaint character both as regards the style of writing and the composition of the epitaphs. Over the communion table was a double tablet monument thus inscribed: "Underneath lie the earthly remains of Erasmus Lloyd formerly of Aberllof-lwyn in this parish, gent., who in 7ber 1688 exchanged this life for a blessed immortality, ag'd 61 years. Here is also deposited the mortal part of his son Hugh Lloyd, Esq., a gent. of no ordinary Capacity ye strictest probity

exemplary piety, much esteemed whiles living, and no less lamented at his death wch happen'd 8ber 20th 1732 in ye 66 year of his age." On the same wall, but on the south side of the altar, was a handsome marble monument with black pilasters, on which was the following: "In memory of Thomas Hughes, of Aberllof-lwyn, Esq., the affectionate husband, tender parent and sincere Christian, who with uncommon serenity of mind resigned his breath to the Almighty Giver 30 January 1771 aged 74; also Elizabeth his wife

Who in the paths of heaven born virtue trod,
A close observer of the laws of God,
A foe to none, a friend to all mankind
A heart sincere with an exalted mind
Who early took religion for her guide
Liv'd with strict honour and with honour dy'd

January 5th, 1768 in the 73rd year of her age."

The new church will be built from plans prepared by Mr. A. Ritchie, Chester, by Messrs. John and Daniel Evans, of Llanddewibrefi. The style is early gothic.

The memorial stone, of which there were four pieces, and on which there was engraved in mediæval characters the words, "Rebuilt and enlarged, October 23rd, 1878," was laid on Wednesday afternoon by Mrs. Davies, Cwmgoedwig, late of Ffosrhydgalel.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Oct. 2, 1878.)

BROMLEY, HENRY, of Shrawardine Castle, Shropshire, who was high sheriff of his county in 1642, should be mentioned as having convened the principal gentry of the shire to meet and accompany him in waiting upon King Charles the First, when his Majesty paid a visit to Shrewsbury. It is clear from Lord Clarendon's narrative that the Salopians evinced their loyalty in no stinted manner, for he states that they brought such proportions of plate and money that the army was fully and constantly paid. "If the King had carried out in good faith 'the generous words' he delivered before these gentlemen upon the occasion in question, it is very probable that events might have taken a different turn, but there is too much reason to fear that the King was never very sincere in his professed attachment to the principles of the Reformation, and that he often said one thing and did another." This charge was believed in by many, to the great detriment of the royalists and to the injury of the king's sacred cause with the multitude.

BROMLEY, JOHN, a brave soldier, who first fought under Lord Bourchier, at the battle of Corbie in Picardy, when Henry the Fifth undertook an expedition to France, was born at Baddington Hall, in Cheshire. His chief was defeated, and his standard taken, "Whereat Bromley pierced at heart, ran eagerly upon the French," struck down the champion who had brought this dishonour upon our arms, and bare back the standard in triumph. In reward for this service, his Lord granted him an annuity for life. In 1417 he again accompanied the King to France, and in this second expedition he gained still further fame, for his gallantry was such "with conduct of charge afore the King that he dubbed him Knight of Warfare on the field, and appointed him Captain General of the Castle of Damfront, then just taken by the French." The following year he, with three hundred English, defended a position they had taken against the attack of eight hundred French; and although they won, the brave old soldier himself was so severely wounded, that he had to abandon the glorious profession of arms, and return home. In 1420 he died, and his body was buried with honours at Aston, in Cheshire.

BROMLEY, JOHN, a native of Shropshire, who, in the early part of James the Second's reign, was curate of St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, London, turned Romanist, and became corrector of the Press in the Royal Printing House. He afterwards kept a school for young gentlemen, Pope being one of his pupils. He published in 1687 a translation of the "Catechism of the Council of Trent," and died in 1717.

BROOKE, HENRY, son of Sir Richard Brooke, of Norton, in Cheshire, was born at that place, and succeeded his father in the possession of his estates in 1632. In the year 1644 he was appointed sheriff of his county by the Parliament, and so continued for four years, but the King denied the legality of this appointment, and himself put Richard Grosvenor of Eaton into office, so that Cheshire for a time had two separate sheriffs claiming jurisdiction, and exercising each in his own way the high powers invested in them. In 1652 Mr. Brooke was created a baronet, but he only lived for two years in the enjoyment of his new honours.

BROOKE, JOHN, born at Madeley in Shropshire in the year 1536, managed to live "a good Catholic," and to become an esteemed lawyer. He was a zealous defender of Queen Mary, and thus gained a saintly reputation, and having published a voluminous commentary upon the English laws, he ranks among the learned men of his age. His pious admirers would have us believe that "being of an entirely liberal mind," he advocated the liberty of conscience, but that was a thing so utterly unknown to his loved mistress and to the then pundits of law and theology, that we must be allowed to withhold this praise from our worthy. It is quite true that his zeal for the Queen's cause was honest, but there is no evidence on record to show that he was less loyal to the principles that guided her during her reign, and it is fair therefore to conclude that his silence is a proof of his approval of all the cruel persecutions carried on in her name, and that he has no claim, therefore, to liberality of opinion. He died in 1598.

BROOKE, PETER, was born in Cheshire in 1788, and when a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy he greatly distinguished himself at Martinique by boarding and capturing a French brig of war. In 1815 he was present at the attack upon New Orleans, and was wounded. Returning home he settled at Handford, where he died in 1841.

BROOKE, PUSEY, a descendant of the Brookes of Norton, in Cheshire, and born there, is deserving of especial honour for his noble benefaction in 1767 of alms houses at Halton for six poor decayed and honest old servants, and an endowment of £54 12s. per annum towards their support. It is not often we meet with a special pension of this kind for "old servants," and when we do, it is proper to record the generous affection of a gentleman to his old domestics.

BROOKE, RICHARD, was born at Handford in Cheshire 1791, and has published a number of most interesting works. Among them, "Historical accounts of the Battle of Stoke," and "A description of the field of the Battle of Towton." He was of the kindred of the last-named gentleman, and his family had been long connected with the county of Chester.

BROOKE, ROBERT SALISBURY, second son of Dean Brooke, of Chester, was born in Cheshire 1728, and succeeded to the Chelford estates of his family upon the death of his relative, Samuel Brooke, in 1775. He was one of the governors of Macclesfield Grammar School, and took a very warm interest in it. He was, moreover, a good

scholar and a perfect antiquary, having during his long life visited every object of antiquarian lore in his native county. He died at Chelford in 1814, aged eighty-six.

BROOKE, THOMAS, a native of Cheshire, second son of Sir Thomas Brooke, of Norton, Bart, where he was born in 1694. He was sent to Westminster School for his education, and in 1713 elected to St. John's College, Cambridge, where in 1716 he became B.A., in 1720 M.A. He was rector of St. Mary's, Chester, from 1731 to 1744, and also of Walton in Lancashire. Some books are placed to his credit, but we have not seen them. He died in 1757.

BROSTER, JOHN, a native of Chester, is worthy of mention inasmuch as he devoted much of his leisure, and of his means to collect and preserve printed and engraved memorials of his native place. Shortly before his death, which happened about 1853, he sent for deposit in the Chapter Library of that city, three handsome folio volumes, to form the basis of an illustrated history of Cheshire. The volumes contain the standard histories of King and of Leycester, various scarce tracts relating to county matters, and illustrations of places of note within its borders, "to be then and there preserved for futurity under the protection of the same Dean and Chapter." In 1821 he republished his father's work "The Chester Guide," under the new title of "A walk round the walls of the City of Chester," and called it the sixth edition.

BROSTER, PETER, who filled the office of sheriff of Chester in 1776, was born in that city, and was son of Thos. Broster, an Alderman of repute, who had in 1752 been Mayor. There are few men in England, certainly none in the provinces, who did more than he did to encourage literature. He was a great reader, a fair scholar, and engaged in the trade of a bookseller, at a time when bookworms thought it an honour to be upon friendly terms with the members of that craft. He was thoroughly well acquainted with the history of old books, their value, their intrinsic worth, and how to find them. Several early Cheshire books were published by him, some of them the productions of his own pen, and, take him for all in all, he was a type of that honourable and honoured race of tradesmen who leave a mark behind them. This respectable gentleman filled the office of Mayor in the city, 1791, and when he died, men said, "There has departed and gone the last of the old school of tradesmen." In 1782 he published "the Chester Guide" alluded to above.

BROWN, ROBERT, a native of Chester, and mayor of that city in 1461-2, came to a very untimely end during the year 1465. The Mayor and some of the citizens attended a fair at Mold, where Reynallt ap Gruffydd dwelt. He did not love the Cestrians, and, upon some pretence or other, he managed to get up a quarrel with them. A scuffle ensued, and in the melee several of the English were put to death, the Mayor being carried away to Reynallt's stronghold, and there hanged without trial or mercy. Mr. Richard Llwyd, states that this event occurred in 1461, and that it was Robert Byrne who thus suffered, but he is evidently wrong, for David Ferrer was Mayor of Chester in that year. One Robert Byrne served the office of Sheriff in 1448. Dr. Cowper states it was one "Robert Brynn, who had been mayor three years before," but seeing he is called *Brown* by Hemingway we follow him in the name.

BROWNE, SAMUEL, a native of Shrewsbury, and for many years minister of St. Mary's church in that town, appears to have succeeded Mr. Bright in the incumbency in 1618. He was learned, godly, and truly exemplary in his life, but his parishioners do not seem to

have dealt very kindly by him, for we read that his "peaceable soul was troubled" and "his troublesome pilgrimage" shortened by the misconduct of some evil disposed persons among them. He published some works mentioned by Wood; and Blakeney states he died in 1632.

BRUGGE, SIR JOHN, the renowned knight of Bridge Solers, in Herefordshire, was a native of that county, and sheriff in the 7th year of Henry 5th; also member of Parliament for the county in the following year. His renown, however, is due to the services he rendered at Agincourt, when, with his great leader, Henry, "he found how true and valiant Englishmen could be in the face of overwhelming dangers." He had descended from Simon de Brugge, who had married the heiress of Solers, and "he transmitted the virtues and honours of his name to the Brydges's wide-wasting hand, first garter'd knight—Puissant author of great Chandos's stem"—through the Brydges of Ley, near Westley, in Herefordshire.

BRUSTEIN, WILLIAM, a Monmouthshire man by birth, and who in 1501 proceeded to Germany to serve in the army as "a soldier of fortune." He is said to have been a most daring and gallant man, a reformer in religion, and we may hope therefore a Christian warrior. The cultivation of the arts of war, and the profession of faith in the peace-loving mission of Christianity do not appear to be altogether consistent; but so long as wars continue, and justice is to be executed by the sword, it is always desirable to have in the army good Christian men who will from principle minimise the evils of warfare, and subdue, as far as it is possible to do so, the brutal passions which too often distinguish the glories of the battle field. Mr. Brustein was in England in 1543, and again in 1550; but he died somewhere about the latter year.

BRUYN, JOHN, who was sheriff of Salop in the year 1419, and so continued to 1423, is said to have been a native of Bridgnorth, but a descendant of the Bruens of Cheshire. The length of time during which he filled the then dignified office conferred upon him would alone indicate his respectability and the esteem in which he was held, but he was also the representative of a very honourable border county family, and is, therefore, entitled to a remembrance in these lists.

BUCKLEY, JOHN, a Cheshire man of great consequence, who commanded three hundred of his own tenantry at the decisive battle of Flodden Field, had evidently been educated for the priesthood for he had taken his "degree," and in 1488 he was incorporated at Cambridge "in the degree he had taken elsewhere." Later on we find him presiding as Abbot of the Monastery of Vale Royal, in his native county. Thus he comes down to us in the treble character of scholar, soldier, and abbot. Some questionable pedigrees give him successors in a long line, but unless it can be shown that Abbot John had married, we may put them aside at once. So distinguished a personage can well afford to stand by himself alone, and the Buckleys are quite able to prove their gentle and their ancient descent, without troubling this gentleman in that particular.

BULKELEY, HUMPHREY, a native of Cheadle, in Cheshire, and brother probably to Richard, who died in 1633, took up arms during the civil war on the side of the Parliament. He is the gentleman alluded to in the local history of the period as "Captain," and then "Major" Bulkeley. This gallant man was not a leveller but a patriot, he had a considerable stake in the county, all his family before him had been loyal to the Crown, he also desired to be so, but Charles asserted his own divine right to rule England without a Parliament; and

this was so dangerous a claim in the opinion of Captain Bulkeley, that he felt bound to stand up for the liberty of the subject. It does not concern us to say how far he was in the right or otherwise, but we may readily admit the true honour of the man, and respect his motives. He died in 1678, and being the last direct male heir of the Cheshire branch of his family, his estates descended to his sister, and at her death to the Welsh branch of the house.

BULKELEY, KATHERINE, the last "Lady Abbess of Godstow," was sister to Sir Richard Bulkeley, of Cheadle and Beaumaris. She was born in Cheshire, and, according to the prevailing habit of the time, being piously disposed, she became "a religious." Her devotion and gentle blood no doubt commended her to the notice of the authorities, and in 1535 she was chosen Abbess of Godstow, and held that high post when the Monastries were suppressed by order of King Henry the Eighth. There is printed in Sir William Dugdale's *Monasticon* a touching letter addressed by her to Lord Thomas Cromwell, but she might just as well have hoped for mercy from the King as a favourable hearing from the Lord Thomas. The Nunnery was suppressed, and, upon an allowance of fifty pounds per annum, the Lady Katherine retired to her own family in Cheshire, and there died sometime after 1556, for in that year she rebuilt the chancel of the Cheadle Church "at her own costes."

BULKELEY, KATHERINE, widow of Sir Richard Bulkeley, was the daughter of Sir William Davenport, of Bramhall, in Cheshire. Her fame, when living, and the praise bestowed upon her after her death in 1573, would entitle her to some notice, even if her descent had not been so honourable. "She was a perfect Jem of Joye, a lampe of Godlye Light," is the testimony given of her by David Rowlande, an Anglesea poet who had seen much of her, when she resided at Beaumaris. She was pre-eminently good, sweet in her temper, humble in her demeanour, charitable to the poor, and devout in her religious exercises. One of her descendants had said of her, "We owe as much to her virtues as we do to the wealth of her husband, for our honourable name in Wales," and strangely enough her memory is more cherished in Anglesea than the fame of her lord. Old Rowland sang of her:—

"A matron mother to the poor; a pattern to the best."

BULKELEY, RICHARD, who was Chamberlain of North Wales in 1534, and the first of his name who was called of Beaumaris in Anglesea, was a Cheshire man by birth and descent. He was knighted in 1547, and sat in Parliament for Anglesey in the time of Mary, and also in that of Elizabeth. According to the Welsh accounts, he was a very eminent and distinguished person, and Mr. Richard Llwyd, of Chester, in his MS. notes of the Beaumaris families, claims for him a place in letters as a poet. This statement, however, does not appear to be authenticated, but he undoubtedly patronised the bards, and in doing so gained for himself a good name, and the hearty good will of the Cambrian people. He died in 1573, and was succeeded in his estates by his son, another Richard.

BUNBURY, HENRY, of Stanney, in the county of Chester, was born there, and distinguished himself greatly during the Civil war on the side of the King. The Republican party sequestered his estates, and kept him imprisoned at Nantwich for five years. His residence at Hoole, near Chester, was burnt down by them, and when he was himself released from prison they fined him in a heavy sum of money. He died in 1664, but his son was created a baronet in 1681, and from him the baronets of that name have descended.

BUNBURY, SIR HENRY, Bart., son of the last-named, is worthy of mention as a gentleman who had distinguished himself in the army, and attained the rank of Lieutenant-General and K.C.B. It fell to his lot to convey to the great Napoleon the sentence of perpetual exile to St. Helena, which had been passed upon him by the allied forces. That he did this with a tenderness and a grace that became the character of a British officer, we know, and the volume which he edited of Sir Thomas Hanmer's correspondence, and published in 1808, proves that he could wield the pen with as much power as he had done the sword. He is claimed by Cheshire as to birth, but some deny this.

BURGESS, JOHN, was born at Peckforton, Cheshire, in 1823. When about sixteen years of age, by means of the following words repeated to him by his father, he was led to reflect upon his lost condition—

There's nothing worth a thought beneath
But how we may escape the death
That never dies.

His heart being set upon the work of the ministry, he became a student at Cheshunt, and afterwards settled as pastor at Long Walford, in Suffolk, where after labouring for nineteen years, he was numbered with the dead in 1868, in the forty-fifth year of his age. He was much respected by people of all denominations, and reputed to be a truly good, charitable, and successful minister.

BURGESS, JOSEPH, was born at Nantwich, Cheshire, in 1785. He was privileged with the affectionate care of pious parents, and early devoted himself to the service of the Lord Jesus in the Wesleyan Methodist ministry. He was appointed in 1812 to the Ormskirk circuit, and during an itinerancy of thirty-nine years, pursued an undeviating course of well-doing. "In the peace and prosperity of the Church of Christ he rejoiced—in her adversities and sorrow he grieved." His morning hours were from early life given to devotional engagements and biblical studies. His preaching was plain, earnest, affectionate, and edifying. He died 1859, in the seventy-fourth year of his age, and the forty-seventh of his ministry. It is said that he published some small things.

BURGH, HUGH, sheriff of Shropshire in 1430, was a native of that county, and a descendant of Herbert de Burgh, Earl of Kent. He was justice of the peace in his county when that office was confined to very few, and esteemed as an honour greatly to be coveted. He held office under John Talbot, Lord of Furnyval, and other great lords "in these parts," and probably through their interest was appointed by Henry the 5th as Treasurer of Ireland, where he founded a great family, which even now is held in honour there.

BURGHALL, EDWARD, a notable man, who was born at Beeston in Cheshire in the year 1600. His father, a reputable yeoman, gave him a good education, and for a time he served as usher at the Bunbury Grammar School, and eventually become its head master. A Puritan in faith, he sorrowed over the depraved condition of his countrymen, and resolved to become a minister of the Gospel, in the hope that he might thereby do some good. As "the painful vicar of Acton," he strove with all his might to bring his neighbours to the knowledge of the truth, but we see on reference to his published diary, "Providence Improved," how sin abounded, and that men everywhere gave themselves up to depravity. Living, as Mr. Burghall did, in the stirring times of the Civil War, his little book is filled with incidents of a painful character; the writer saw the hand of God in everything, his neighbours cared nothing about God, but

fought like so many demons for or against the Parliament. When in 1662 King Charles the Second required all men to conform to his supreme will in Church affairs, this good man refused to do so, and was ejected from his living; in three years afterwards he died and was buried at Bunbury. His character shines out upon the page of history as an earnest defender of the faith; but there are writers who have defamed him as a passionate republican, who only made religion a stalking horse for his political ambition. We may dismiss the charge at once, for his life and conversation confute it entirely, unless we are prepared to deny that a man's external life in some indication of the inner one of the heart.

BURLEY, JOHN, who was sheriff of Shropshire in 1409, was born in that county, or in Herefordshire, and was son of Sir Roger Burley, a gentleman of great importance in his day. He was knight of the shire so early as the second of Henry the Fourth, and was standing counsel to the Earls of Arundel and Stafford. He appears to have died about 1414, "leaving behind him a noble name for honour, industry, and a particular knowledge of the law."

BURLEY, WILLIAM, son of the last-named, was also a Salopian, and like his father learned in the law, for he appears to have held a standing fee from the town of Shrewsbury as their counsel. He was sheriff of his county in 1426, and represented it in Parliament several times between 1417 and 1451. He was chosen speaker of the House of Commons, but when does not very clearly appear, nor have we seen any statement as to when or where he died.

BURNEY, JAMES, appears to have been born at Shrewsbury in 1704. He became eminent as a music master, and the founder of a family long proficient in that science. He filled the post of organist at St. Mary's Church in his native town for the long period of fifty-four years, and died in 1789 at the great age of 85. According to some accounts he was cousin to one James Mackburney, who is supposed to be father of Charles Burney, but when or why the "Mac" was dropped is not clear, probably Charles followed the fashion set by James, for it is admitted that Charles Burney's father was married in 1721 as *Macburney*.

BURTON, EDWARD, D.D., son of Edward Burton, of Shrewsbury, was born in that town in 1794. He was possessed of great literary attainments, and his learned publications will transmit his name to posterity. He filled the high office of Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, and was in the very zenith of his fame when he died at Ewelme Rectory in 1836. His works are very numerous, some of them evincing considerable scholarship, and all of them immense reading, and a very perfect acquaintance with the great authors of ancient times.

BURTON, THOMAS, fourth in descent from brave Edward Burton, who died of joy on the accession of Elizabeth to the throne, was born in Shropshire. Like his great ancestor, he was a warm supporter of civil and religious liberty during the reign of the last two Stuarts, and after the Revolution he was rewarded for his zeal by promotion to a Welsh judgeship, and to the recordership of Shrewsbury. Those who are acquainted with the old practice of the law give him credit for a profound knowledge of its intricacies, but it may well be questioned if the "intricacies" of the ancient practice required half the toil and labour required to keep up with the modern improvements of our own day, when Acts of Parliament rarely carry out the principles suggested by their preambles, and too often lead to endless litigation, a thing unknown, to men of Mr. Burton's stamp, who made "law" a study,

and looked upon the advocate's craft as a very secondary affair.

BYRCHYNSHAW, JOHN, who was made Abbot of St. Werburgh, Chester, in 1493, was born in Cheshire, but directly upon the borders of Flintshire. He is supposed to have proceeded to Cambridge for his education, and this is supported by the fact that in 1496 the University passed a grace "that he might incept in Divinity ad placitum." He had violent quarrels with the Chester Civil Authorities, and was twice removed from his Abbacy, but in 1530 he got it back again, and remained there till his death in 1537. The hall at Ince is supposed to have been erected by him, and he farmed a part of Saighton to the extent of one thousand acres. Some say the Saighton Manor House belonged to him.

BYTHEL, JOHN WILLIAM, who published "Salopia and other Poems," a pamphlet on "Winter Circuits," "Piscatory Letters," and other works, was a native of Shrewsbury. The productions of his pen evince ability, and the tribute he has paid to Salop in his works, a very warm affection for the place of his birth. He died in 1851.

OCTOBER 30, 1873.

NOTES.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS ACT.—Under the provisions of this Act new corporations were elected in December, 1835. At *Oswestry* the following was the result of the poll:—

EAST WARD.	
<i>Elected.</i>	<i>Rejected.</i>
John Croxon	David Thomas
Francis Campbell	Nath. Minshall
George Dorset Owen	John Lacon
Francis Lucas	Charles Sabine
Griffith Evans	Thomas Kyffin
James Howell	Samuel Roberts
Richard Bill	John Davies
William Price	Edw. David Jones
William Roberts	
80	
WEST WARD.	
<i>Elected.</i>	<i>Rejected.</i>
John Hayward	David Thomas
Thomas Rogers	Nath. Minshall
Ed. David Bennion	Thomas Jones
Ch. Thos. Jones	John Lacon
John Jones, jun.	Samuel Roberts
Charles Sabine	
William Williams	
James Williams	
Thomas Penson	
100	

John Croxon, Esq., was the first mayor. Following the election of Town Council and choice of Mayor, came other appointments. By the new Act Oswestry lost its Quarter Sessions, and in so doing the services of the Hon. T. Kenyon, as Steward of the Borough under the old charter. Early in March, 1836, the following announcements were made:—

"Magistrates appointed for the town and borough of Oswestry: The Hon. Thomas Kenyon, Pradoc; T. N. Parker, Esq., Sweeney; H. P. T. Aubrey, Esq., Broomhall; John Jones, Esq., Brook Street; James Edwards, Esq., Brook Street.

"Assessors for the East Ward, appointed Mar. 1, Mr. Thomas Edwards, bookseller; Mr. John Davies, draper. Auditor, Mr. Thomas Jones Rogers.

"Assessors for the West Ward, Mr. Nathaniel Minshall, attorney; Mr. E. B. Marriott, Auditor; Mr. John Harrison, grocer."

In the first of these, viz., the magistrates, of course the appointment was made by Government. JARCO.

QUERIES.

GAME PRESERVING IN WALES.—In Aug. 1802 the following advertisement appeared in the papers:—"BALA. We the undersigned Proprietors of Hills in the Neighbourhood, do hereby give notice that we are determined to use every Exertion to preserve the Game thereon, and that we will proceed with the utmost Rigour of the Law against any Person trespassing upon our Property:—Watkin Williams Wynn, E. W. Vaughan Salusbury, Bell Lloyd, Edward Pryce Lloyd, Richard Price, Robert Watkin Wynn, John Lloyd." Up to this time did Welsh farmers consider they had a right over the game on the mountains, or had poachers been allowed to take game with impunity? TELL.

PRISONERS OF WAR AT LLANFYLLIN.—The following letter, presumably by the late Mr. Henry Pidgeon, is extracted from a *Salopian Journal* of half a century ago:—

Sir,—Having lately had the pleasure of conversing with a native of Germany, who was making a tour through some of the mining districts of the Principality, and whose manners and conversation bespoke him a gentleman of no ordinary rank, I was requested by him to make the following communication to the inhabitants of *Llanfyllin*: but considering the high sense of gratitude which it manifests ought not to be confined to the precincts of a town, I am induced to extend its circulation through the medium of your Journal, that it may be the means of adding additional energy in us as Britons, to maintain that reputation which has rendered it a characteristic of our Country to befriend the destitute exile and unfortunate refugee, and to set forth to Foreign Nations *our consistency* in the circulation of that BOOK which inculcates—"if thine enemy hunger, feed him; and if he thirst, give him drink."—I am, sir, yours, &c., H.P., *Shrewsbury*, July 9, 1827.

The following is the communication referred to:—

The German soldiers from Hessa, so well received by the inhabitants of *Llanfyllin* during their captivity, have requested the undersigned to state, that the kindness and the favour shown to them by the esteemed inhabitants of *Llanfyllin*, will ever remain in their thankful remembrance.—C. W. WEDIKIND, *Newtown*, June 17, 1827.

On what occasion were these German prisoners at *Llanfyllin*; and is there any record preserved of their sojourn there? NEMO.

REPLIES.

A WELCOME GUEST AT SHREWSBURY. (Oct. 2, 1878).—I have in my note book, copied, I fancy, from the *Annual Register*, or kindred publication, a somewhat fuller account of the visit of Mr. Webb to Shrewsbury in June, 1813. The following is the substance of the information:—Mr. Webb arrived in Shrewsbury not with the intention of distributing any sums amongst the poor, but the doors of the Lion Hotel were soon besieged by the ragged, wretched, and unfortunate, seeking alms. "Six orphan boys from Knighton and Leominster, for whom he had not provided masters in Ludlow, followed him to Shrewsbury, and they have been clothed and apprenticed to respectable masters." Mr. Williamson, an acquaintance of Mr. Webb's, assisted in finding masters; and Mr. Johnson, at Mr. Webb's request, examined into cases of real distress: Mr. Webb wished to confine his gifts to widows and orphans, the blind, lame, and dumb. He visited the House of Industry, Schools, Prison, &c., and left several sums of money to be distributed, in all amounting to £700; making no distinction of sects. J.Z.R.

GWYDIR CHAPEL, LLANRWST.

(Oct. 9, 1878).

At this date "N.W.S." gave a copy of the old handbill issued at *Llanrwst*, purporting to be a description of

the Gwydir Chapel at that place. On Oct. 23 I spent an hour in the chapel, and copied the inscriptions; and as my copy will be fuller than the one you gave it will perhaps be well to publish it as an addendum to the other.

To the left of the "Tablet of white marble" (the spelling of which, I may say, was not accurately copied) there is a brass, with the head of Sir John Wynn engraved in centre, and round it inscribed:—

Here lyeth the body of John Wynn of Gwedv'r Kt. and Baronet who died first of March 1620.

The family arms are also engraved on the brass. On the other side of the Tablet containing Pedigree, there is a corresponding brass, containing a female head; and if it as truly represents the lady as the other brass represents the existing portraits of Sir John, it is a valuable likeness. The inscription runs thus:—

Here lyeth ye body of ye La. Sydney Wynn wife of Sir John Wynn of Gwedv'r Kt & Baronet who died ye eight of Ivne 1632.

Underneath the Pedigree Tablet, as stated by "N.W.S." there is the brass containing the "superb engraving of Dame Sarah Wynne." I was told in Llanrwst that there had never been anything, but an imperfect photograph taken of it; the light not being strong enough to take a good one; and I was also told that no one was allowed to take "rubbings." It seems a pity that such a fine work of art should be so buried. It would certainly be a boon to subscribers to the new edition of the *History of the Gwydir Family* if this brass could be removed for half an hour to a better light, and a good photograph taken with which to enrich the pages of the book. The following is the inscription beneath the figure:—

Here lyeth the body of Dame Sarah Wynne wife to the Honoured Sr. Richard Wynne of Gwyddur Barronet and one of the daughters of Sr. Thomas Middleton of Chirke Castle Knight She departed this life the 16th day of Ivne, 1671. [Guil: Vaughan, Sculptit].

Underneath a table in front of the reading desk, (and which contains some figures in old oak of the eagle and griffin), there is a marble monument, ruthlessly marred by the initials of the vulgar; on which reclines the quaint figure of a child, with raised shield of arms each side, and underneath this inscription:—

Here lieth the Bodie of Sidney Wyn daughter to Owyn Wyn Esqr. which was borne the 6th of September & departed this life the eight of Octobr. following, Anno D'ni 1639.

On Oct. 9, you gave English translations of the inscriptions on the "two stately pyramidal columns of variegated marble;" so I here give the original. On the left column:—

Meredith Wyn a'r Oweni Gwynedd qvondam Cambriae Principis progenies felicijs auspicijs fvdavit domvm Gyder ffanwm S'ti Gwyddelan transtulit et reedificavit in expeditione Tornatensi 3^o H. 8. Fortissimvs dxv fato cessit Mense Marcij 1525.

On the right hand column:—

Iohannes Wyn de Gwyder Miles baronetta Cvm Sydneia filia Wm. Gerrardi Militis regni Hybernicae cancellarij, vnica et iuventutis conige, cvi peperit filijs vndecem et filias dvas hic facent, Christi adventvm in Gloria expectante.

The tablet between the Pyramids has this inscription:—

Iohannes Wyn de Gwyder filius Meredith ar paterne virtutis emulvs vir iustvs et pijs, Cvi Elena vxor eivs peperit qvinque filios et dvas filias. Obijt. 9^o Ivlj A^o Dom. 1559.

At the base of these pyramids the following modern inscription has been put:—

Pet: Rob: Drvmond Willoughby Dem: de Eresby et Gvydir Restitvit A.D. MDCCCXXV.

The inscription round the "large square flag of free-stone" mentioned by "N.W.S.," is as follows:—

Monvment. Filiis. Io: Wyn de Gwyder milit. et baronet. qvi obierunt, svpersite patre. Io: Eques avrat. sepvlt. Lvccae Italiae civitate Libera, A^o eta 30 A^o D 1613. Robert. in Art. Ma. Sacris Initiat. A^o Eta. 24, Do. 1612. Tho. Rog. et Rog. in Minori etate. Fvns Fvms Fvms Ecce.

There are also some brasses merely mentioned on the sheet your correspondent copied. A couple, to the right of the principal window (on the same wall as the Pedigree Tablet) bear respectively male and female heads, with these inscriptions:—

Filius natu secund. Iohes Mostyn Armiger mærens posuit ano Dom 1658.

Obijt 25 die Febr. anno domini 1653.

This inscription is above and below the figure; on the other the inscription is on a garter surrounding the head:—

Conditum · in · hoc · tumulo · Iacit · corpus · eximiae · admodum · dnæ · dnæ · Mariæ · Mostyn · coniugis · Rog · Mostyn de Mos · in com · Flin. eq · Avrat · primogenitæ · Io · Wynne de gue · com · car · eq · et · bar · filij · ejus · natu · secunda · Iohes · Mostyn · armig · mærens · posuit. Ano' dni' 1657.

There is a shield of arms on each side of this, and the artist's name "Silvanus Crue, sculp." also appears.

There is also a smaller brass with the following:—

Here resteth the body of Sr. Owen Wynne of Gwedv'r Baronet who dyed the 15 of August 1660 aged 68.

And on the opposite wall, apart from those connected with the Wynne family, one with a female figure engraved on it, and this inscription:—

Here lieth the body of Katherine Lewis eldest daughter of Maurice Lewis of Festyniog Esq who dyed ye 12 of March 1669 aged 16 years and 8 months.

The heiress of the Lewises was married to one of the Wynns, which will account for the presence of this brass in the Gwydir Chapel. A.R.

P.S.—I believe there was formerly another monumental inscription in the Gwydir Chapel, as follows:—

Moricus Wyn de Gwydder ar: hic jacet pacis et Justicie Acerrimus assertor cui prima conjux Jana fit Ric'i Bulkley Venedocie camerarii. Secunda Anna fit Edw. Grevyll de Mycot militis. Tertia Katharine fit et hæres Tuderip ar Rob'ti Ar: x^o die augusti mortuus. 1580.

BIDDEN WEDDINGS IN WALES.

(April 21, 1875).

It was the custom in olden times at Llanbadarn Fawr, and very likely in Wales generally, for a bidder or gwahoddwr to go from house to house, about a week or fortnight before a wedding day, with a long pole with ribbons at the end of it, and stopping at the middle of the floor in each house, to repeat in Welsh something like the following invitation, which was actually given at Llanbadarn in the year 1762:—"The intention of the bidder is this; with kindness and amity, with decency and liberality for Einion Owain and Llio Elys, he invites you to come with your goodwill on the plate; bring current money; a shilling, or two, or three, or four, or five; with cheese and butter we invite the husband and wife, and children, and men-servants, and maid-servants from the greatest to the least. Come there early, you shall have victuals freely, and drink cheap, stools to sit on, and fish if we can catch them; but if not hold us excusable; and they will attend on you when you call upon them in return."

LLAH.

GWYDDELWERN CHURCH.—The *British Architect* says:—"Gwyddelwern Church, Corwen, is to be rebuilt at an estimated cost of £2,000, towards which the Hon. C. H. Wynn has offered £500, and the Vicar £100." The Rev. D. R. Thomas, in his *History of the Diocese of St. Asaph*, says:—"The church, dedicated to St. Beuno, (April 21,) consists of chancel and nave with western gallery and

belfry, and a south porch. The general condition is very dilapidated, but it shows proofs of having formerly been a handsome edifice. The east end has been rebuilt at no very distant period, and rough tie-beams thrown at the same time across the chancel to hold the bulging north wall in its place. The perpendicular east window of five lights has been happily retained, and still preserves fragments of rich early glass of a star and diamond pattern, as well as some aureoles which once crowned the heads of apostles and saints. An early English window stands on either side of the chancel, and on the south there still remains the priest's door of about the same date. The roof retains a portion of its old panelled ceiling, with bosses at the intersections, and the seats are rude open benches without backs, with the names of certain tenements carved upon them to indicate their former owners. The lower portion of the old rood screen still remains *in situ* at the division of the chancel and nave, and retains some of its original traceried panels. The desk on the north wall bears the inscription, in characters of the sixteenth century, 'Cronogr Dirigatur oratio nostra quasi incesum in visv parochie Sedes impens Ro Davies structa in vsvm parochie Gwyddelwern.' And beneath it the Ucheldre seat, formerly belonging to the Kyffins, has several panels of Jacobean carving, representing dragons, pelicans, doves, &c. The walls of the nave are in good preservation, and the old oak roof with its trefoiled braces and collars is of good design, but some of the seats are primitive and literally more like pens than anything else. The gallery bears the inscription 'Gabriel Hughes, 1634. A geisio ddaioni a ennill ewylllys da; ond a geisio ddrwg, iddo ei hun y daw. Diar xi., 27.' Beneath it stands the old parish chest, formed of a single trunk and secured by its four locks. The windows of the nave are some of them of three lights with segmental heads, and others of two with flat heads, but all of them with foliations. The old north door has been closed up and the present entrance lies through a porch on the opposite side. The font is octagonal and plain, of perpendicular date; the communion table, which is small, was 'the gift of Gwen Davies, 1752.'"

NOVEMBER 6, 1878.

NOTES.

MUNICIPAL FINES AT OSWESTRY.—Mr. Francis Campbell was the second mayor elected by the Oswestry Council, after the passing of the Municipal Corporations' Act, and he was appointed Nov. 9, 1836. At the same meeting "certain fees were agreed to, the highest the Act permits, to be levied on all who should decline to act as Mayor, Alderman, or Councillor; other fines were also agreed to for non-attendance of members at the meetings of the Council." JARCO.

PRESENTS TO SHERIFFS AND MAYORS.—Pennant in his *History of Whiteford and Holywell*, p. 37, says it was formerly the custom for friends and neighbours to make presents to the Sheriff to assist in defraying his expenses. He gives one list as a specimen, when Fyers Pennant was sheriff in 1612. In this list we have money, cows, wethers, geese, wheat, butter, chicks, capons, muttons, &c. At the time he wrote, 1799, I presume the custom had died out, for he speaks of it as one that prevailed earlier than his time. It would appear, however, that the custom was observed in relation to Mayors at a period subsequent to the date at which Pennant wrote. I have seen a list, in MS., which has been preserved by the family of a Mayor of Oswestry,

dated very early in this century, in which the presents to him on his accession to office are enumerated. They consist of wine, tongues, rum, turkeys, cake, sugar, game, geese, nuts, fowls, cheese, candles, malt, &c., but no money. In those days the Mayor was expected to give at least seven dinners during his year of office, viz.:—The grand feast after election, one more select on the Sunday he marched to church, one each quarter to the grand jury after the sessions, and one to the various officials and hangers-on of the corporation. At "The Feast" given by the Mayor I am referring to, 105 gentlemen sat down to dinner, and 129 bottles of wine were drunk. And the officials, who enjoyed the chief-magistrate's hospitality at the Cross Keys, were not by any means behind their betters in their performances, for 27 of them drank 31 bottles of wine, besides malt liquor, cyder, perry, and punch. JARCO.

GUNPOWDER PLOT DAY IN CHESTER, 1772.—The following somewhat singular, and exceedingly frightful accident took place in Chester on the 5th of Nov., 1772. The writer, communicating the particulars to the papers on the following day, says:—

Yesterday being the anniversary commemoration of the gunpowder-plot, a great number of people of both sexes; men, women, and children, went in the evening to see George Williams's puppet-show, exhibited at a place called Eaton's dancing-room, in Water-gate street; it unfortunately happened, that a neighbouring grocer had, within a few days before, lodged a quantity of gunpowder in a cellar under the show-room, which proved the cause of the most dreadful catastrophe ever known in these parts: for between eight and nine o'clock the powder took fire, (how, or by what accident is not yet ascertained) and blew up the floor, a room over it, and the roof; shattered the walls, which were of stone, and amazingly thick, and communicating with the scenes, cloaths, &c., instantly set the whole room in a blaze. Thus in a moment were the major part of the company buried under massy ruins, surrounded with flames, without any possibility of extricating themselves; so that (besides those who were burnt to death, or killed upon the spot by the fall of heavy stones and timber) scarce one escaped, without being either so miserably scorched or crushed, that few can survive. The explosion was very great, and attended with a convulsion which was felt in the extremity of the city and suburbs. This alarming circumstance incited many people with a curiosity of enquiry into the cause; which, when known, it is impossible to express the dread which every one was possessed with for the safety of their family and friends. But when the dead and wounded were seen borne upon men's shoulders along the streets, the scene became affectingly deplorable. Some fainting away, others crying in the bitterest anguish, distracted with the loss of husbands, wives, children, and relations; in short, the general horror and confusion on this melancholly occasion, is much easier to be imagined than described. The number of dead are computed at forty; that of the maimed, scorched, and wounded, forty-two, in the general infirmary. Among the former are Williams, the showman, his wife, and a child about four years old. The number of the wounded are, by later accounts, increased to sixty-six. Much damage is likewise done to the adjacent buildings; several houses being overthrown, and windows shattered to pieces at an incredible distance by the explosion.

The foregoing is taken from the *Annual Register* for 1772, pp. 136-7; and your readers will find a reference to the event in the notice of John Bowden, in Mr. Salisbury's *Worthies*; second series, now publishing in your pages. NEMO.

QUERIES.

COMMANDER INGRAM, R.N.—Can any of your readers furnish me with particulars of time and place of death and burial of this officer. He was living in 1859, but was then close upon 80 years of age. He was a member of an old Montgomeryshire family—the Ingrams of Glynhafren, Llandidloes. R. W.

CHIRK CASTLE ESTATE,—In the *Advertiser* of Oct. 16, I notice the following paragraph:—

CHIRK CASTLE ESTATE.—By the death of — Jones, Esq., by a fall from an unruly horse, Sep. 9, 1742, “£18,000 a year, a portion of the Chirk Castle estate, comes to John Myddleton, Esq.”

Can anyone inform me who this Mr. Jones was, and how came he to receive a portion of Chirk Castle Estate, and also if there are any of his descendants now living, and who and what are they.

INQUIRENS.

THE DISCOVERER OF THE MICROPHONE.

“Prof. D. E. Hughes, the discoverer and inventor of the microphone, was born in London in 1831. His parents were both Welsh, and emigrated to America, while he was still a child. They settled in Kentucky, and there young Hughes received his education.”—*Cassell's Family Magazine*. It would be interesting to know something more of the native place, &c., of Prof. Hughes's parents. The late discussion respecting the merits of Welshmen should stimulate anyone possessed of additional facts to make a note of them in *Bye-gones*.

H.

REPLIES.

RELICS AT WHITTINGTON CASTLE (Oct. 16, 1878).—Some few years ago, while travelling by rail through Whittington, one of the passengers, a miner, stated that some years ago, when the coal trade was in a depressed state, he and some other colliers borrowed a waggon and loaded it with coals, and with ropes attached, drew it from Ruabon through Chirk, Gobowen, and on to Whittington. The Rev. C. A. A. Lloyd was then Rector. He purchased the coals, and engaged the men to mud the Castle pool, and in doing so they found several things of ancient date, which they handed over to the Rector. The ponderous iron fetters which “A.B.C.” seems rather dubious about, are now, and have been for years past, in the possession of the Rev. A. R. Lloyd, Hengoed, with other interesting relics. When the Wesleyans of Oswestry had their last bazaar in the Public Hall, they had a small museum in connection with it in a room down stairs, and among other curiosities, these fetters (kindly lent by Mr. Lloyd for the occasion) were very conspicuous. “A.B.C.” may have an idea of their nature by supposing he had a pair of heavy pony fetters, without the chain—the irons put on the ankle, and then a heavy bar of iron put through them, and secured by a padlock. Their weight, at a rough guess, appears to be between 20 and 30 lbs.

ALPHA.

CAMBRIAN BIBLIOGRAPHY (Oct. 16, 1878).—*Alwydd neu Agoriad Paradyys* cannot be a very scarce book. I saw a copy of it in the possession of a friend some years ago at Weymouth. I copied the title page, but cannot now state whether it was a complete copy or not. On the other side of the title page was the following:—“John Jones, Glan y Gors, ydyw perchenog y lyfr hwn. Mae yn y lyfr lawer o gelywyddau Sancteididol a Bendedig. Cafwyd y lyfr hwn mewn siop yn Llundain. Awst, 1813.” This note may serve to identify the book.

E. H.

There are more points of view than one in looking at a question. From Mr. Silvan Evans's doubtless my communication was “unnecessary.” From my point of view it was not, and I am glad to find that the editor of *Montgomeryshire Collections* agrees with me, for he has quoted my information in a note on p. 377 of the second part of vol. xi., recently issued.

JARCO.

A WELSH MUSICAL CHILD (Oct. 9, 1878).—In the *Wrexham Recorder*, a magazine published in 1848, in imitation of the Oswestry serial called *Oswald's Well*, the following notice of Miss Randles appeared:—

On the first of August, 1800, was born at Wrexham, Elizabeth Randles, daughter of Mr. Edward Randles, organist of the Church, and a most excellent performer on the harp; the same as mentioned by Miss Seward, in her poem *Llangollen Vale*. Mr. Randles was blind. Miss Randles appeared before the public when only two years old; she played “Ar hyd y nos,” and “The Downfall of Paris,” on the pianoforte, at the Wrexham Theatre; and before she attained her fourth year she had the honour of performing before the Court of George the Third, and Queen Charlotte; on which occasion her father played the harp (on which he greatly exceeded all performers of his day), and the good old King came up to him and said, “Ha! blind, blind, I see—who taught you to play?” Mr. Randles said that it was old Mr. Parry, the celebrated Welsh harper of Wynnstay. “O,” said Mr. King, “I remember him well; he and his son used to play Handel's Choruses, thirty years ago, on two Welsh harps; he was blind, too—yes, blind like you—poor fellow—I remember it well—it is half thirty years ago.” Through the influence of the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Miss Randles was patronized by the first persons in the land, and a large sum was raised for her. The Princess of Wales, afterwards Queen Caroline, wished very much to adopt the child, and offered to give her the best education, &c., but the poor dark minstrel could not bear the thought of losing his darling Sappho. She went, however, to pass a week at the Princess's house at Blackheath; and was consequently a good deal with the late Princess Charlotte of Wales. On one occasion when the two little prattlers were amusing themselves, the Princess said to Miss Randles—“Do you know, Bessie, that my Grandfather is King of England, and that my father is Prince of Wales?” “Well,” said the little Welsh lassie, “And my father is organist of Wrexham.” Miss Randles became ultimately a first-rate performer, both on the harp and pianoforte; and she fixed her residence at Liverpool. She died in 1829, at the age of thirty. Mr. Randles died in the autumn of 1820.

It was on the pianoforte that Miss Randles first made her mark, and we are told in the *Cambrian Traveller's Guide*, 1813, that “at 6 years of age this extraordinary child could play the most complicated music, and sing anything laid before her at first sight.” Her friends took her a musical tour in 1807-8, and she then retired for education, “and has lately,” adds my authority, “applied her abilities to the harp.”

N.W.S.

NOVEMBER 13, 1878.

NOTES.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS.—Mr. James Grant, in his romance entitled *Under the Red Dragon* (says the *Graphic* for Mar. 8, 1873), observes that it is common for corps from mountainous districts to have some pet animal—as the Highlanders often have a stag—as a fond symbol to remind them of home and country. The 23rd Welsh Fusiliers have the privilege of passing in review preceded by a goat with gilded horns, adorned with wreaths of flowers, and a plate inscribed with its badge. Like the midshipman's pig on board ship, the Fusiliers' goat “never dies”—as soon as one goat departs this life he is succeeded by another—“Le roi est mort, vive le roi.” Traditional memories exist concerning some of these goats. One survived the battle of Bunker's Hill, when only five Grenadiers escaped. Then there was Old Billy, who died in the Caribbean Islands, whither he had accompanied the regiment from Canada. Since then the goats have been presented by her Majesty the Queen, and came from a herd in Windsor Park, of the pure Cashmerian breed. The present goat [1873] “joined” last year, his

predecessor, who went out to India in 1864, and returned in 1869, having died at Newport. A concise history of the 23rd, in *Bye-gones* would be interesting. H.B.

SHROPSHIRE COMPOUNDERS.—The following is a pretty accurate list of the gentlemen who compounded for their estates, and the amount each paid. There was no county in the kingdom more loyal than that of Salop, as the number will shew. If any gentleman in the county would undertake to give an account of these "delinquents'" descendants it would be interesting.

Beacon.	F.S.A.	£	s.	d.
Allenson, William, of Wem, gent.....		80	0	0
Ashton, Edward, of Aldenham, Esq.....	-2,000	0	0	0
Betton, Robert, of Shrewsbury.....		320	0	0
Benthall, Lawrence, of Benthall.....		230	0	0
Badewin, Edward, of Dillewbury, Esq.		245	0	0
Barns, Thomas, of Low.....		50	0	0
Betton, Thomas, of Shrewsbury.....		53	7	6
Billingly, Francis, of Astley, gent.....		140	0	0
Banch, Henry, of Aldon, yeom.....		676	0	0
Blodwell, John, of Lloyn, Esq.....		105	0	0
Broadhurst, William, of Lilles Hall, Esq....		26	0	0
Challenger, Thomas, of Shrewsbury.....		60	0	0
Corbet, Sir Vincent, of Morton Corbet, Knight and Baronet, with £80 per annum settled.....	1,588	13	4	
Cherery, Lord Richard Herbert, of.....	1,000	0	0	
Crump, Thos. Junior, of Ludlow.....		1	0	0
Daniel, Richard.....		45	0	0
Dawes, John, of Coughly, gent.....		75	14	7
Draper, Thomas, of Walton, Esq. (no sum stated)				
Eyton, Sir Thomas, of Eyton, Knight		976	0	0
Evans, Robert, of Krickheth, gent.....		120	0	0
Edwards, Thomas, of Great, Esq.....	2,060	0	0	
Edwards, John, of Rorington, gent.		444	12	4
Felton, Will., of The Low.....		90	0	0
Fowler, Tho., of Whitchurch, clerk.....		130	0	0
Frederick Thinn, Sir Henry, of Caus Castle, Knight and Bar., with £200 per annum settled.....	3,554	0	0	
Gibbs, Richard, of Shrewsbury.....		43	0	0
Harding, John, of Shrewsbury, gent.		50	0	0
Haines, John, of Langdon.....		35	5	0
Holland, Thomas, junior, of Bridgenorth ...		21	0	0
Harris, Sir Thomas, of Boreatton, Bart., and Dame Ann, the widow of Sir Paul Harris, deceased, delinquents.....	1,542	0	0	
Ireland, Thomas, of Abington, Esq.....		716	0	0
Jones, Thomas, of Ludlow.....		1	0	0
Kinaston, Edw., of Oatly, Esq., with £50 per an. settled.....	1,500	0	0	
Kinaston, Roger, of Hordly, Esq.....		921	0	0
Lacon, James, West Coppies.....		554	0	0
Langly, John, of Brosly, gent.....		50	0	0
Lloyd, Ed., of Llanvardo, Esq.....		300	0	0
Morgan, Isaac, of Brickton.....		50	0	0
Morris, Hugh, of Weston.....		61	0	0
Moor, Thomas, of Elsemeer.....		154	7	0
Newton, John, of Highlee, Esq.....		32	16	4
Oakely, Richard, of Oakely, Esq.....		460	0	0
Otley, Sir Francis, of Pitchford.....	1,200	0	0	
Owen, William, of Pontesbury, gent.....		150	0	0
Owen, Pontesbury, of Eaton Moscot, Esq.		601	14	0
Owen, Roger, of Shrewsbury, Esq.....		700	0	0
Owen, Sir William, of Candore, Knight.....		314	0	0
Owen, William, of Porkington, Esq.....		414	6	8

Owen, Richard, of Shrewsbury, gent., with £10 per annum settled.....	50	10	0
Owen, Edward, of Condoover, gent.....	207	0	0
Piggot, Thomas, of Chetwin, gent.....	440	0	0
Perse, John, of Wesbury, gent.....	560	0	0
Prince, Sir Richard, of Shrewsbury, Knight	750	0	0
Philips, Richard, of Netly, gent.....	117	0	0
Scot, Richard, of Shrewsbury.....	23	0	0
Scot, John, of Shrewsbury.....	23	0	0
Smith, Francis, of Burton.....	28	0	0
Stanley, Edward, of Cocking, gent.....	132	0	0
Sandford, Francis, of Sandford, Esq.....	459	0	0
Tourney, Timothy, of Bold, Esq., with £30 per annum settled.....	692	0	0
Thornes, Francis, of Shelooock, Esq.....	720	0	0
Walcot, Humphrey, of Pointon, Esq., with £80 per annum settled.....	500	0	0
Waring, Walter, of Oldbury, Esq.....	511	0	0
Young, John, of Pymley, gent.....	200	0	0

A SHROPSHIRE SERVANT GIRL'S LETTER.

In an old scrap-book, which formerly belonged to Mrs. Morhal Hughes, of Little Acton, near Wrexham, I find the following copy of an original letter received by a lady friend, from a girl who had formerly been in her service:—

for Mrs. scot Eiton
near Welenton.

Oct. 28. Cockshutt, 1825

Madam, ihave taken the liberty once More wich iham sory to Due. ileft Mrs. lesters in 9 days, i was very hill and fosit to leave. i send for the Careter that shee had from you, and shee would not Return it. iham gain to Meet a leady from Hoswestry next wensday, and it al Depends upon your Careter, and i hope you will be fabuary with me. ihave been in abad state of Eith, but i think iham Capable of a Citueason, so if shee sends for it i hope you will Anser it.

There was no signature.

T. HUGHES.

Chester.

QUERIES.

ROMAN CATHOLICS IN OSWESTRY.—At page 117 of Price's *History of Oswestry* we are told (the date being 1815) that "A room in an old house, on the top of Bailey-street, (lately occupied by Mr. Roberts, hatter,) was formerly used as a place of worship by the Roman Catholics: the pulpit of which remained until within these few years." What house is referred to?

FITZALAN.

SALARIED MAYORS.—Was it general, after the Municipal Reform Act was passed in 1835 to allow the Mayor of a borough a salary? I am told that in Oswestry a majority of the Council, at a meeting held in Feb., 1836, voted that a salary should attach to the office. Mr. John Croxon, who was then mayor, thanked the Council, and signified his intention of banking the money, for use in town improvements. When did this custom cease? We have what are called public improvements now a-days, and have the names of the Mayors recorded on them, but the cost comes out of the rates. If the salaried Mayors effected any improvements they are not recorded. OSWALD.

WATERSPOUT AT WELSHPOOL IN 1679.—The following extract from No. 32 of "Domestick Intelligence of News both from City and Country" published on Friday, Oct. 24, 1679 (and in the possession of John Naylor, Esq., of Leighton Hall), may be of interest to some of your readers. After alluding to the damage recently done by floods in Herefordshire, the report proceeds—

From Lincolnshire they write that one of the stage coaches in that county was overwhelmed with the water, and six passengers that were in one of the coaches were drowned with the horses,

the coachman himself hardly escaping. There is an account of somewhat the like accident which lately happened in Sussex, and that in one part thereof the sea is broken in, and has over-run some hundreds of acres of land. But the most remarkable relation is that which is sent from Welchpool, a town in Montgomeryshire, about five miles from Shrewsbury. That on Saturday, the eleventh of this instant October, about three a clock in the afternoon, the inhabitants thereabout saw a very thick cloud which being gathered together all on a sudden, it broke upon one of the mountains hard by, and fell with such fury and in such a quantity as the like was never observed before, which immediately procured such a vast torrent of water that divers trees were torn up by the roots, with the violence thereof, and several stones of an immense bigness, which had been hewn out of a rock, were carried away therewith, which the flood bore down impetuously into a valley against a water mill, which it threw down, and also the dwelling-house adjacent thereunto: but all the people escaped except one woman who was sick in bed, and for hast could not be removed: It proceeded against a strong, stone bridge, which could not resist its fury, and then coming against a strong, stone wall, its fury was stopped for a while, but on the sudden above three score yards of the wall fell down, and most part of a Manor House next it was washed away, and carried into the River Severne. This spout or waterfall occasioned this vast inundation within an hour after it fell, and it was very observable that there was no sign of any rain within a mile of the place at that time: The damage and loss occasioned hereby can hardly be computed, and it is much to be feared will occasion a scarcity of corn and other grain the next year.

Can any of your correspondents enlighten me as to the exact scene of the disaster, and state to whom the manor house referred to belonged. The person who furnished the report in question appears to have been strangely ignorant of the distance between Shrewsbury and Welchpool.
GEO. D. HARRISON.

[Mr. HARRISON will find, if he will refer to the Reprint of *Bye-gones* for 1875 (a copy of which is deposited in the Powysland Museum), that the substance of the foregoing account appeared on Aug. 4 of that year. The foregoing, however, contains more details, and has a query attached to it, so we gladly give it place, and at the same time beg to say we should be glad of any other incidents of a local nature from the same source.—ED.]

REPLIES.

PEARLS IN THE CONWY (Oct. 16, 1878).—In the "Cheshire Sheaf" column of the *Chester Courant*, Oct. 2, 1878, "H. Newton" writes as follows:—I remember a story told by a relation of mine in Carnarvonshire, of a poor woman at Conway, who by her diligent search for pearls was enabled to send her son to college; and he, being clever and prosperous, rose to be a canon in one of our cathedrals (which he has now resigned at an advanced age). I believe the poor woman was known in her native town as "The Mother of Pearl." ARGUS.

OLD FOLKS (Oct. 16, 1878).—Hugh Llewelyn, included by LLYWARCH HEN, in his list of the obituary of very aged persons, appears to have been the same individual as the Hugh Llewelyn enquired after in *Bye-gones* of July 25, 1877. And "Lean Cadwalader" mentioned in that query as the locality in which his death occurred turns out to be, as I suspected, the parish of Llangadwaladr. The slight misprint by which Llan was made to be Lean appeared originally in the notice of his decease in January 23, 1790, which was inserted in the *Gents' Mag.* for March, 1790, p. 181, and was subsequently transferred into Bailey's *Records of Longevity*, p. 239. No mention is made in what grave-yard his remains were interred. The Vicar of Llangadwaladr states that his name is not found in the Register Book of Burials belonging to that parish. If LLYWARCH HEN will discover where he was buried, and collect all that is

traditionally known of him, he will be thereby instrumental in preserving such memoranda as will otherwise be soon past recovery. It may also be of service to inquire if any members of the clan to which he was related are now resident in the parish or the neighbourhood, as they may be in possession of materials calculated to further the research.
LLALLAWG.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Athenæum* says—The dramatic poem by the author of the "Epic of Hades," which we mentioned some weeks ago, is to be entitled "Gwen." It is now in the press, and will be published before Christmas.

Mr. W. H. Allnutt, of the Bodleian Library, who is known to the readers of our *Bye-gones* column as an occasional contributor, has printed for private circulation the paper on "Printers and Printing in the Provincial Towns of England and Wales," which he read at the recent meeting of the Library Association at Oxford.

The death is announced of another eminent Shrewsbury school boy, Mr. William George Clark, late the public orator of the University of Cambridge, which office he held from 1857 to 1869. Mr. Clark died at York, where he had been long suffering from severe illness and paralysis. He was born in 1821, and was educated first at Sedburgh and afterwards at Shrewsbury, under Dr. Kennedy.—In 1840, he left school for Cambridge, with a brilliant reputation as a scholar, which he increased in his career at the University. He graduated B.A., of Trinity College in 1844, and was one of the seniors of that society at the time of his death. Mr. Clark edited a critical edition of Shakespeare jointly with Mr. Aldis Wright, of Trinity, which was completed in 1866.

The parish church of Llananno (about sixteen miles from Newtown) which for two years past has been undergoing a process of rebuilding at the sole cost of Mrs. H. R. Stephens, of Castle Vale, Llananno, was re-opened by the Bishop of St. David's, on the 6th of November. Mr. David Walker, of Liverpool, was the architect, and Mr. R. L. Boulton, of Cheltenham, the contractor. The ancient rood screen has been restored, and the new structure is built precisely upon the line of the old foundations, in great part with the stone from the old walls of hard grey slate formation. The screen, which is now declared by competent authorities to be the finest in Wales, has been very judiciously restored.

The re-opening services of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Penrhos, which has been closed for the past four months during repairs, were held on Thursday, Nov. 7. Many necessary repairs have been carried out in the church, and in the interior several improvements have been made. Some of the seats have been re-arranged, and more space is now obtained in the chancel for communicants. The pulpit, reading desk, and clerk's desk, usually known as a "three decker," which stood on the north side of the nave, have given place to a Bath stone pulpit; an oak prayer desk stands on the south side at the entrance of the chancel, and the lectern is also of oak. A new stone font has been provided, by subscriptions collected by Miss Whitaker and Miss Robinson; also a new harmonium (by Christophe and Etienne, Paris), mainly by the exertions of Mrs. Edwards, Mardru. The sanctuary is paved with encaustic tiles. The altar is raised on a stone base. The walls have been repaired where necessary, and cleaned and re-coloured. The ceilings have been whitened, and the roofs oiled. All the seats have been

varnished, and the glazing has been looked over and repaired. A new oak churchyard gate, hung to stone piers, is also provided. The work has been efficiently carried out by Mr. W. Bowdler, of Shrewsbury, under the direction of the architect, Mr. Haycock. The colouring, oiling, and other matters have been attended to by Mr. Done, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury.

THE ROYAL OAK HOTEL, WELSHPOOL.

We extract the following article—one of a series on Celebrated Coaching Houses—from the *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette* :—

In the days when railways were not; when commercial travellers did the roads in their own traps; when posting was the only mode of locomotion for those who had the means and appliances to indulge in the luxury; and when travelling generally was confined to the comparatively few, the Royal Oak, at Welshpool, was one of the best known and most popular hotels in the Principality. Welshpool itself is a prettily situated little town, and, although in Wales, it has none of the Welsh type about it. Pennant describes the place in his days as "a good town, seated in a bottom not far from the castle." Its Welsh name is "Y Trallaw," or the Pool Town. The owner of the adjacent castle, "Castell Côch," is the Earl of Powis, Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Montgomery; and it is beyond question a singularly picturesque pile. Its situation is a commanding one, looked at from a military point of view, and completely dominates Welshpool, whence it is distant some mile and a-half. The castle itself has passed through the hands of several owners—the Charltons, of Apley; the Greys, by marriage; the Herberts, by sale; and to the Clives, by marriage. By the people of Welshpool Powis Castle is looked upon with a large amount of pride, and the noble owner is considered in the light of a fellow-townsmen, as such he really is. In the course of years there has been no small amount of festivity in connection with the Powis family, such as comings-of-age, marriages, &c., and upon such occasions the Royal Oak has always been the headquarters of the conviviality. In fact, everything of that kind was centered there, and the inhabitants of Welshpool are seldom short of an excuse for getting up public dinners, making sure that at the Royal Oak they were certain to be served in first-class style. In the coaching days the hotel was a busy place, and the spacious stables pretty nearly always full. The principal coach that changed horses there was the mail between Shrewsbury and Aberystwyth, and a well-appointed conveyance that was. During many years immediately preceding its eclipse by the railway, the mail driven by that well-known whip, Tustin, than whom a better hand never handled the ribbons, started from the Post-office at Shrewsbury at four o'clock every morning, and the turn-out was all that could be wished. Welshpool is some nineteen miles from the starting-point, and the road thereto is by no means an easy one to cover. But a few miles after leaving the county town of Salop, on a fine summer morning, nothing could be finer or more glorious than the scenery along the route—hill and valley stretching out as far as the eye could see. Then those lofty hills, the Breidden and Moel-y-Golfa, come in view. On the summit of the former is an ancient British camp of Caractacus, and on the centre of it a column is erected to commemorate Admiral Rodney's celebrated victory over the French fleet in the West Indies, on the 12th April, 1782. While naturally admiring the beautiful prospect, passengers as naturally inquired from Tustin how it was that such a pillar was erected on that spot; but neither the coachman nor the guard, Berridge, were ever able to answer the question satisfactorily. The time from Shrewsbury to Welshpool was about two hours, and it was a rarity if Tustin ever varied three minutes in his arrival at the Royal Oak, into the forecourt of which he dexterously piloted his four spanking browns. In the summer mornings there was always a number of people up to see the mail arrive, and the cordial and cheery welcome given to those passengers who alighted to partake of breakfast at the hotel, by the buxom and genial landlady, Mrs. Whitehall, was a thing to be remembered and talked about. She was the pink of what such a woman should be, and the fame of her cuisine reached very far beyond the county in which she lived. In fact it was a common thing in her days for commercial travellers from a wide district around to assemble at the Royal Oak to spend their Sundays there, so capital was the provision made for their comfort and convenience. In short, she made the Royal Oak famous, and she had her reward. After her decease,

the hotel was in the hands of Messrs. Smith, of Chester, who were known as coach proprietors throughout a very wide district of country, and in their hands the mail was horsed in splendid style, so much so that the thirteen miles between Welshpool and Newtown were often done in little more than an hour, while the stage from Welshpool to the Half-way House, on the Shrewsbury-road, which included some four miles or more of good stiff collar-work, was done by four as fine horses as ever were put into a coach. But the days of coaching were drawing to a close, even in Wales; the iron horse slowly elbowed first one coach and then another off the road, putting them back, as it were, nearer and nearer to the coast, until even Tustin and his famous Aberystwyth mail had to succumb. But they made a gallant fight of it, and died what we may well call gamely. The railways made but slow progress; there was much opposition to them from various quarters; the directors quarreled with each other and with the contractors. At length the lines were completed to Welshpool, and there was an end of coaching at the Royal Oak. With changing times came different landlords, and the hotel passed into the hands of Mr. Rowland, who worthily maintains the reputation of the house, which is now, although many changes for the better have been made in the inns in what we may describe as mid-Wales, celebrated for the hospitable treatment its many guests receive there.

NOVEMBER 20, 1878.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Oct. 23, 1878.)

Md that tertii die octobris Ano R. R. Elizabethæ dei gra. Angl &c vicessimo David Maurice m'r of art and late principal Scholmaistr of Oswestry havyn to hym graunted by the consentes of the bayliffes and burgesses their one admtyon of v markes & xxii carre loades of fyrewood out of the schole landes was the daye aforesaid Addmytted and sworne burgess And John Hanmer his son was also admtytted burgess in consideration y't he the said David Moryce hath given upp to the saide bayliffes & burgesses xxs. yerlie for terme of his life out of the sayd anuytie & also gave up x loades the moytie of the said xxii loades of woode whereupon he is hensforth to have xlvjs. viijd. of an'yitie xxen carloades of fyre woode of the said lands.

John Edwards,
Robert Pryse.

Tertio die octobris Anno Regni dne. [Eliz.] xxo.

At wch daye Hughe Yale gent. was swoorne one of the burgesses their in consideration that heretofore he was elected and admtytted burgess their in the presens of the former bayliffes and of Sir John Throckmorton knyghte one of the burgesses their assembled in their election house at wch tyme also one Peter Drihurst gent. deceased was also elected & admtytted burgess how be it he died befor his burgess othe to hym mynistered And the said Hughe Yale was then admtytted in consideracon of divers good turns & benevolence done & bestowed to this towne by the Right worshipfull Mr. Thomas Yale his brother decessed doctor of the lawe And the daye month and yeare abovsaid the said Hughe Yale was by full ellectyon chosen and elected one of the bayliffes for the yere ensuyng/ Mr. John Trevor then electd

John Edwards } bayliffes
Robert Pryse }
John Lloyd
Ryc. Lloyd
Th. Evance
Thomas lloyd
Rich: Evans

Decimo die Januarij An^o Regni
Regine Elyz dei gra. xxj^a.

At w'ch day John Trevor & Hugh Yale gent. bayliffes for the year ensuyng have p^rused and vewed all the charters Rsyd by them the yere aforesaid w't all other bills my ny m'ts conteyned in certin boxes & Remaynyng in the towne chest in the burgess hall which being vewed & p^rused was Delyv'd over being x in nomber to nycholas ab Ryc ap Bdd beinge murynger the said yere w't iij locks & iij keys.

Ps. now the half Elln and yard being of yrn

Ps. ij^o bolte wich was delyv'd to Ryc Marecroft & hasp loke Thom's ap Robert then sergyante and also to for ij^o haspe loke with Mr. John Edds and nycholas lloyd

John Trevor } baylifes
Hugh Yale }
Wyllm Goughe
Rich Williams
Nycholas ap Rychart muringer

QUERIES.

SQUIRE TINKER, A SHROPSHIRE LAP-DOG.—Is anything known of the old lady to whom the following paragraph refers? I copy it *verbatim* from Adams's *Weekly Courant* (now better known as the *Chester Courant*) for January 25, 1757 :—

One day last week died, near Shrewsbury, 'SQUIRE TINKER, a favourite Lap-Dog of a certain Lady's of Distinction near that Town, and who was (after the usual Offices were performed, as to a deceas'd Person) buried in his Mistresses Park with great Decency, the Servants who attended his Funeral having each a Mourning Hatband, &c. When this Creature was first discovered to be ill, an eminent Physician was sent for in great haste, and he, being at Church, was call'd out to come and give his advice. As an instance of the many Respects paid to this Favourite, is the following, viz. : Every New-Year's Day all the Servants in the Lady's Family were obliged to kiss Squire Tinker, and wish him a happy New Year, &c. And in order to perpetuate his Memory, the Lady has settled 3s. 6d. per week on his Nurse (during life) who attended him in his illness.

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

A FAIRY'S CAVE.—A writer in *Brayley's Graphic and Historical Illustrator*, signing himself "Yvvyan," contributes four interesting chapters on the "Popular Superstitions and Customs of Wales." In one of these he says, "Many marvellous traditions are afloat in the Principality regarding caves; one in North Wales is supposed to extend for an endless distance under ground, and was invested with a character of so fearful a nature, that it was reported that any person venturing within five paces of its mouth would infallibly be lost. In consequence, the immediate vicinity remained un-trodden by the foot of man for a long series of years: and it was said that animals had also so great a dread of approaching it that a fox with a pack of hounds in full cry at its brush, has been known to turn short round with his hair bristling with terror, and run into the midst of his canine enemies, rather than encounter the horrors of that wild and yawning recess; and that the dogs shrunk away and could not be prevailed upon to touch him in consequence of the infernal odour which he had imbibed from his near vicinage to the powers of darkness. Several human beings were believed to have been lost within its 'ponderous and marble jaws,' one of whom was an old minstrel, who fell a victim to a rash bet on the subject. He danced towards the cave, till he came within the limits of his charmed circle, when he was suddenly seized by an invisible power, and hurried away for ever from the gaze of man." Where is this cave? G.G.

REPLIES.

CHURCH BELLS (Sep. 25, 1878).—In reply to WREXHAMITE who asks, Aug. 28, "who was Mr. Bull?" I can say that he was by trade a master-butcher in Shrewsbury, and was also a scientific ringer. I remember when the Great Eisteddfod was held in Welshpool in 1824 Mr. Bull was applied to by Harry Gilmore of Pool for a party of "change ringers"—they having none there—and he engaged the services of some of the Oswestry ringers. I was living in Manchester myself at the time, but know that Thomas Clayton, "Dick Travis" [Richard Hughes] and Charles Jones went from Oswestry.

AN OLD RINGER.

SIGNBOARDS IN WALES (Oct. 23, 1878).—

In looking over the *History of Signboards*, I have come across some connected with Wales, but they have already been referred to in *Bye-gones*, I think. The extracts, for all that, will be interesting.

Richard Wilson, R.A. (ob. 1782), painted the Three Loggerheads for an alehouse in North Wales, which gave its name to the village of Loggerheads (sic), near the town of Mould (sic.) The painting was still exhibited as a signboard in 1824, though little of Wilson's work remained, and it had been repeatedly touched up. . . . David Cox painted a Royal Oak for the alehouse (sic) at Bettws-y-coed, Denbighshire; fortunately this has been taken down, and is now preserved behind glass inside the inn.

The author says "The Goat" is not very common, and only mentions some instances in London, &c. As we know, the name is still in use in different parts of Wales—in some localities because it was connected with the arms of one of the branches of the family of Sir Watkin Wynn—and in others, such as Beddgelert I presume, in honour of the goats on the adjacent mountains! S.A.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Nov. 12, 1878).—

There has never been a short, compact, and comprehensive account of this regiment published, I believe, and I fear my notes will not supply one. They may, however, give some material to assist a more practiced pen. My information is chiefly taken from two sources. First of all as to the name of the corps. A writer in *Chambers's Journal*, May 2, 1874, says:—

The word *Fusilier* has not now a definite meaning. It was derived from *fusil*, one of the early forms of musket, and was applied to those troops who bore that weapon. Many officers also carried fusils; but now they carry only swords (with perhaps pistols), while the rank and file all have rifles. The fusil was lighter than the musket, and the fusilier corps were regarded as light infantry. About one in eleven of our foot regiments are still called Fusiliers; namely, 5th Northumberland, 7th Royal, 21st North British, 23d Royal Welsh, 87th Irish, 101st and 104th Bengal, 102d Madras, and 103d Bombay, together with the Scots Fusilier Guards. The reader, therefore, must not expect to see the 23d Fusiliers carrying fusils. Nor must he look for anything Welsh in their garb; although there is generally a strong infusion of Welshmen in the regiment—Griffiths, Llewellyns, and so forth. The regimental colours have a Prince of Wales's plume in the centre, with the badge of Edward the Black Prince—a rising sun, a red dragon, and a white horse—at three of the corners; while other parts of the flaunting flag are pretty well covered with the names of famous battles in which the regiment has been engaged.

A tolerably full account of the doings of "The 23rd" is given in Morgan's *British Kymry*, published in 1857, from which the following is taken:

The 23rd Regiment of the Line, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was first raised in Wales and its borders, by Henry Lord Herbert, under instructions from William III., 17th March, 1689. The colonelcy was conferred on Lord Herbert's relative, Charles Herbert. The regiment consisted of 13 companies, each containing 60 privates, 2 drummers, 3 corporals, and 3 sergeants, i.e., about 800 men in all. Its war complement is now 1,200 men.

On June 1st, 1690, the 23rd took part in the victory of the Boyne, Ireland—in the siege of Limerick—in the victory of Ballymore, June 3rd, 1691—victory of Aghrim, July 12th, in which Colonel Herbert fell—surrender of Galway—capture of Huy, in Flanders, 1694—capture of Namur—sieges of Venloo, Puremonde, and Liege, 1702, under Marlborough, in the war of the Spanish succession against Louis XIV.—storming of the heights of Schellenberg, 2nd July (5 officers killed, 11 wounded, 69 rank and file of the regiment killed, 156 wounded)—victory of Blenheim, Aug. 13th, 1704 (9 officers wounded)—forcing the formidable barriers of Helixen, July 17th, 1705—victory of Ramillies, 23rd May—taking of Ostend, Menin, Dender, and Aeth—victory of Oudenarde, July 17th, 1708—taking of Lisle, hitherto deemed impregnable, and Ghent—victory of Malplaquet, Sept. 11th, 1709, when the mutual loss of life was greater than at Blenheim, Ramillies, and at Oudenarde united—taking of Mons and Tournay. By these successive actions the 23rd was reduced to only two officers able to take the field. In 1710-11-12 took part at the sieges of Douay, Bethune, St. Venant, Aire, Bouchain, Quesnoy, and in the occupation of Dunkirk. The treaty of Utrecht was signed April 11th, 1713, confirming Nova Scotia, Hudson's Bay Company territory, Newfoundland, Gibraltar, and Minorca, to Britain. From this date to 1739, no British army was engaged on the Continent.

War of the succession in Germany on behalf of Maria Theresa, queen of Hungary, and arch-duchess of Austria. The British army, including the 23rd, landed in Flanders, 1742; the 23rd took part in the victory of Dettingen, under George II. in person, June 27th; Colonel Peers died of his wounds.—Battle of Fontenoy, May 11th, 1745, in which the French, under Marshal Saxe, were victors, but suffered more severely than the British. The loss of the 23rd, who formed part of the British square which stood its ground in the centre of the French army for two hours, amounted to 22 officers killed, wounded, and missing, and 181 privates left dead on the field—battle of Val, July 2nd. Treaty of Aix-la-chapelle, guaranteeing her hereditary dominions to Maria Theresa, signed Oct. 7th, 1748. The 23rd remained in home quarters till 1755, when it landed in Minorca, and in conjunction with the 4th, 24th, and 34th regiments, stood the celebrated siege of Port Philip, "a feat of resistance by few against numbers," states Beaton (Military Annals), "scarcely to be paralleled in history." The 23rd joined the army in Germany, and largely contributed to the brilliant victory of Minden, Aug. 1st—bore part in the battles of Warburg and Campden, 1760—of Grabausteine, 1762. Peace of Fontainebleau, ceding North America and the greater part of the West Indies to Britain was signed July 10th, 1763. War of American Independence,—the 23rd landed at Boston, and was engaged at the skirmish at Lexington—battle of Bunker's Hill, where the American entrenchments were stormed at the point of the bayonet; the 23rd led the storming parties thrice successively, and every officer was killed or wounded—victory of White Plains, Oct. 28th—capture of Fort Washington, Nov. 16th—of Danbury, April 12th, 1777—victory of Ridgefield next day—victory of the Brandywine, Sept. 11—capture of Philadelphia, Sept. 26—action at Freehold, June 27th, 1778—beat off as Marines the French fleet in a naval action, and received the public thanks of Lord Howe, Sept. 14th—capture of Charlestown, Carolina, 1780—victory of Camden, in which 2,000 of the British routed 6,000 Americans—action at Catawba—victory at Guildford gained by 1,447 British rank and file over 7,000 Americans; "unquestionably," states Sir Thos. Saumarez, "the hardest and best fought battle in the American war." The gallant little British force under Cornwallis was now reduced to 5,900 men, which were soon afterwards besieged by the Confederate French and American army of 21,000 men at York town, and obliged to surrender, Oct. 17, 1781. The colors of the 23rd were saved by Lieut. Peters, and brought to England. The treaty of Versailles, by which the Independence of America was recognized by England was signed January 20th, 1783.

From this date to 1793 the regiment remained on home service, when it was again called on foreign duty as will be shown another week.

RIFLEMAN.

GAS IN SHREWSBURY.—One of the earliest records of the use of gas in Shropshire is the following:—"Died in Shrewsbury, Oct. 13, 1811, aged 36, caused in attempting by means of gas to imitate the tail of a comet, Mr. William Hilditch, jun., land surveyor." The comet of 1811 was a notable event.

OLD WELSH ALMANACKS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

NEWYDDION MAWR.

Odiwrth y Sêr

Y Gyntaf ar ol Blwyddyn Naid

Neu |

ALMANACC:

NEWYDD

Am y Flwyddyn } Y Byd, 5689.

o oedran } Crist, 1741.

Ac amryw Athrawiaeth Cyfleys ynddo

- 1 Y nodau Cyffredinol am y Flwyddyn a Blynnyddoedd.
- 2 Diffygadau a fyddant ar yr Haul ar Lleuad.
- 3 Y Symudol ymryddiaid am yr amser.
- 4 Barnedigaeth am bedwar chwarter y Flwyddyn.
- 5 Dechre a diwedd Ternaui y Gyfraeth yn Llundain.
- 6 Danghosiad am Cylch yr Haul a Llythyren y Sul dros Byth.
- 7 Hysbysrwydd am y Prif ar Epact tros Byth.
- 8 Eglurdeb am y Rhif cyfarwyddiad tros Byth.
- 9 Dyddiau Gwylion a Dyddiau hynod.
- 10 Symudiad'r Arglwyddion yngnorph dyn ac Anifael.
- 11 Codiad a Machludiad yr Haul ar Lleuad.
- 12 Tremiadau y Planedau ar Tywydd.
- 13 Profiad ar Scrythur yn Cyffylbu'r deuddeg Mis.
- 14 Carolau gwiliu a chlamau newyddion.
- 15 Hanes y Brenhinodd Lloeger o Egbert hyn Geogre 2 a Llawer o bethau Cyfleys yn y chwaneg ynddo.

O Waith EVAN DAVIES Philomath.

Y Drydydd Argraphiad o'r gwaith 1740.

Pan gyd ganodd Ser y Borau: ac y gorfoleddodd Holl Feibion Duw. Job, 38. 71. Vers.

Argraphwyd yn y Mwythig ac ar Werth yno gan T. Durston. a W. Atkins. a chan Wm. Morris a Llanwrbyd.

The compiler of this Almanack dates his preface

"Manavon Mehefin y 24 } Evan Davies."
dydd, 1740, Sir Drefald }

This Almanack is especially interesting to Montgomeryshire men, as having the nine stanzas congratulating the great poet William Wynn on his being appointed Vicar of Llanbrynmar:—

Englynion y unaed I'r Parchedig Ddifeinudd, Mr. William Wynn Fficer Llanbrynmar yn Sir Drefald trolw ag ydynt yn Disgyn oll ar yr un llythyren ar Ffrach olaf ynddynt Sudz yn terjynw ar un gair; a hyn sydd orchest.

Y Sprydol mwy gweiddol mewn gair, cu Figel,

cat Fagad yn un air,

Synhwyrol a Duwiel Diwair;

llwya bri yn musc Llanbrynmar.

Dafydd Evan o lanfair ynghaereinion.

Cymreigiwr brig Jeithwr Doethair, Fêl Eirre,

Fal Aaron deg lwsair,

Fficer Downus dianair;

O Lanbryn y Forwyn Fair,

John Edwards Clochudd maenafon.

Pen, dda ei awen, ddiwais, ei olwg,

Yw Wiliam Wynn ddisglair,

A Gloyw Aaron Eglurair;

llawen bron maeth llanbrynmar)

Gwiliu ab Iorwerth, o Lanfawr ymhenllyn

Pen Athro cryno i wr crair, olau-rwydd,

Ail i Aaron ddiwair;

Gweinidog gloyw oesog glwsair,

llên bron a maeth llanbrynmar.

Rowland Jones o'r Pandu yn Llanuwchllyn

Yngwaelod pob Efangylair, moesol,
Mae iel *Moses* ddiwair,
Gweinidog fu hynod-air;
llon bur oen mawr Llanbrynmair.

Etis Cadwaladr o Landrillo.

Heddyw i Gadw'r Gadair, Doeth Elw,
Daeth *William Wynn* ddiwair,
Synwyr Parod Sain Pur-air;
Arogl glwys bromwyn-Eglwysbrynmair.

John Jones llywelun o lanfair ynghaereinion.

Ail *Aaron* Purion Perair, Pur loewedd,
Perl awen Ddianair,
Athraw Dwysglan waith disglair;
Llon *Wynn* bron maeth Llanbrynmair.

Etis Roberts y Cowper o Lanrwst.

Llanerchweidd groewedd dda grair, llain Enwog,
Llen wynedd ddewisair,
Llawn Cyhyddedd llwyn cadair;
Llona bron medd Llanbrynmair.

Dafydd Jones o Drefriw, yn Sir Gaernarfon.

Jeched bob Enyd heb anair
Fyth, a fytho i'r gwr Ddiwair
I gadw yr uniawn gadair
Yn llen Ein bromwyn Llanbrynmair.

Humphrey Davies o'r gur Gwyrd y Mwythig.

These curious stanzas terminate, as the Welsh informs us, with the same word, "Llanbrynmair," and it may well be considered a clever thing to do.

These are followed by a new Christmas Carol of fifteen stanzas by "William Edward o Gegidfa (Guilsfield)." A sacred song of twelve stanzas, and a new Christmas Carol, both by "Humphrey Davies," of the Green Man, Shrewsbury (it is supposed). The closing pages have "Pedwar penill ymherthynas y Diffyg mawr a ddigwydd ar yr Haul yn y flwyddyn 1748." A song against Drunkenness, a Carol for New Year's Day, a May Carol by "John Edward, Manavon, 1740," and a love song closes this Almanack. CYFFIN.

CYWYDD

I DDAFYDD, Abad Llan Egwestl, ac i DDAFYDD AB OWAIN, Abad Ystrad Marchell.

The following poem, by GUTTO O'R GLYN, addressed conjointly to the Abbots of the two Monasteries of Ystrad Marchell and Valle Crucis, is taken from the MS. known as the "Llyfr Huw Llŷn" (Add. MSS. 14,967,) in the British Museum, in the handwriting of Gutyn Owain, and containing about thirty original poems of his own composition, collated with two other copies, one transcribed from an old MS. by the Rev. J. Silvan Evans, and the other No. 253 in the Peniarth Library in the handwriting of Robert Vaughan, the antiquary of Hengwrt. There is a translation of it in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, vol. vi., p. 357:—

Mae deu-Saint i'm dewisaw,
Mae dail aur ym' o'u dwy law,
Un yn dad ni wnaed oedi,
A'i fab doeth yw f' Abad i.
Dau Ddafydd nid oedd ofer
Dwyn eu clod daioni clér
Gwledd-dai aur, arglwyddi da,
A gwin aml a gawn yma.
Nid rhaid ym' onid rhedeg,
A dwyn taith rhwng deu-nod teg,
I lawr Egwestl oreu-gall,
I Bowys o'r llys f'r llall.
Ni bu dir yn y byd well;
Bydd merch lle bu yd Marchell;
Gwenith-dir, gweirdir, a gwydd,
A galw dd'wyf arglwydd, Ddafydd,
Abatai Ystrad dwys-drefn,
A braint y cwfaing, a'u cefn.

Awdwr Mechain drem uchel,
Athro i bawb yr aeth a'r bel.
Ei dafawd, cymhen-wawd hir,
A wna ateb i naw-tir:
Ei enau doeth, a'i wên deg,
A dry'r mydr drwy ramadeg.
Ni chad wedi'r Abad Rhys,
Nebun wynebu'n ynys.
Ysgolhaig oesgae(a)l yw hwn,
Yn uwch etto no Chattwn.(b)
Salmon y ganon i gyd,
Sifyl ar ei fys hefyd.
Mae i Farchell mwyaf erchwyn,
Abad mal lleuad mewn llwyn.
Iaith a chyfraith uwch Hafren
I Bowys yw ei bais wen.
Ni wna'i *Bekoc(c)* na *Bakwn(d)*
Ni wessir hawl, nas gwyr hwn.
Nid ateb, neu *endeittio*,
I'r brenin ond o'i fin fo.
Gwr o gynghor y goron,
Gwr llys yw gydâg Iarl Sion(e)
Eryr Eglwyswyr a'u gwledd,
Edn o ben dawn a bonedd.
Dewi, Esgob dewis-goeth,
Tad bedydd i Ddafydd ddoeth,
A droes y badd, deiroes byd,
A'i ddau fraich, yn ddwfr iechyd;
Yr ail dwfr, o law Dafydd,
Yw dwfr *ffons* i dyfur ffydd.
Un yw Dafydd i'n dofi;
Abad a roed lle bu dri;
Bened(f), a Berned(g) heb au,
Beuno, bid ben abadau;
Abad arall bedwerydd,
Yntau i'w swyddau y sydd.
A'i law i'n bendigaw del,
Ef, a'i gloch, a'i fagl(h) uchel,
Yn esgob iawn ei wisgaw,
A'r meir aur am ei iad draw.

GUTTO O'R GLYN ai cant.

a, Oesgall, Add. MSS. 14,967. b, Sef, Cattwg Ddoeth. c, Bp. Peacock of St. Asaph. d, Friar Bacon. e, The famous John Talbot(?) Earl of Shrewsbury. f, St. Benedict, founder of the Benedictine Order. g, St. Bernard, founder of the Cistercian Order. h, The Pastoral Staff, or Crozier.

The compositor who "set up" the first copy of Bishop Heber's famous hymn, "From Greenland's icy mountains," Mr. John Kennedy, lately died at Chester in the 79th year of his age. Kennedy was employed in one office at Wrexham—Painter's, afterwards Potter's—for sixty-three years, and never worked in any other office. It will be remembered that the hymn was written by Heber when he was on a visit to Wrexham for the first missionary service ever held in Wrexham Church, and was sung on Whit Sunday morning, 1819.

The will (dated May 27th, 1869,) with a codicil (dated August 9, 1876) of Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Thos. Myddelton Biddulph, K.C.B., late of St. James's Palace, who died on Sep. 28, last, at Abergeldie Mains, Aberdeenshire, was proved on the 7th Nov. by the Hon. Dame Mary Frederica Myddelton Biddulph, the widow, the sole executrix, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000. The testator gives to his wife his furniture, plate, jewels, pictures, household effects, carriages and horses, and £700; upon trust for his son, Victor Alexander Frederick, £1,000; and the residue of his property upon trust for his wife for life, and then for his children, in certain proportions.

NOVEMBER 27, 1878.

NOTES.

BORDER WORDS AND PHRASES.—My mother, who was born in the parish of Llandysilio, between Welshpool and Oswestry, often uses the word "whillow." If anything is lost she will say "You must willow for it." A Welsh friend suggests that this is another example, like "dragger" and "mornymoo," of Welsh words in use on the English side of the border. The Welsh word "chwilio" means emphatically to search for an article that has been lost. R.T.

SALESBURY WELSH TESTAMENT, 1567.—Subjoined is a list of the copies of this scarce version of the New Testament, which have come to my knowledge, all of which, except Nos. 7 and 11, I have myself seen and examined. There are doubtless other copies in existence, and your contributors would do good service by mentioning any they may know of and the condition they are in:—

1. British Museum	...	...	Complete.
2. Bodleian Library	...	...	Do.
3. Peniarth Library	...	...	Do.
4. Mostyn Library	...	...	Incomplete.
5. Captain Verney, Rhianva	...	...	Do.
6. Bangor Cathedral Library	...	...	Do.
7. St. Asaph do. do.	...	...	Do.
8. The Principal of Aberystwyth Coll:	...	...	Do.
9. — Jones, Tailor, Carnarvon...	...	...	Do.
10. Miss Evans, Pwllheli...	...	...	Do.
(In very bad state).			
11. Miss Davies, Penmaen Dovey	...	...	Do.
12. Mr. E. Breese, Morva Lodge	...	...	Complete.
(With 5 pp. of Errata not in any of the other copies.)			
E.B.			

[If a list of the Welsh Bible of 1588 (Bishop Morgan's) were contributed in a similar way, it would be valuable bibliographically.—Ed.]

RICHARD STANEY OF OSWESTRY.

(Apr. 2, 1878).

Will 1542. 13 Spert. *Richard Staney of Oswestry, draper*, "to be buried in the p'yshe church of Oswestre wthin the grave of my brother parson Staney yf it may be conveniently ells ymmedyatlye adjoynng the same...to Sir Owen my gostly father xxs...to the reparacion and buylding of the church fve poundes sterling...to the buylding of a newe scole within the church yarde fve poundes sterling...unto myne eldyst sone Richard Staney one hundred poundes starling...to my daughters lafully begotten betwixte me and my wyddyde wyfe that ys to sey Katheryn Margaret Jane Dowce and yf it be goddes pleasure that she be lighted of a childe wherewt she goith now to every one of theym threescore poundes sterling apeece...to Thomas Staney my basterd childe ten poundes...to Elizabeth my basterd daughter ten poundes...to Margarete my basterd daughter ten poundes...to Elenour my weddyd wyfe three hundred markes starling...my suster Jenett lloyde Jev'n lloid is wyfe fve poundes...to every childe of my Syster Jonet lloide xxs...xxs to every childe of my Nevewe Robert lloide...xxs to every childe of my Syster Elizabeth Staney wyfe to Edward lloide...to Gruff, lloide his daughter xxs now being unmarried...to every Childe of my Nevewe Thomas lloyde xxs...to every childe of my Cosyn Edward Draper xxs...to every childe of myn uncle John Draper xxs...to the childe of my Nece Cicelye daughter of Jev'n lloyde xxs...xxs to be devyded betwixte Dowce Draperys children...xxs to be devyded betwixte Margaret Drapers children

...to my Cousyn John price parson of Wittenton xxs..... Elenour verch David my weddyd wyfe...John ap David lloyde my brother in lawe...In Witnes...John price Owen ap D'd clarke" etc.

This Testator was son of Ric. Stanye the elder. The family was allied to several of the London civic dignitaries of the 16th century. As already shown (Apr. 3, 1878,) Richard S. the elder in his will mentions his daughters Blanche, wife of Ric. Raynolde, citizen of London, and Jane, wife of Master Watson, citizen of London.

Ric. Raynolde was Sheriff of London 1532, and his sister Jane was wife of Sir Nicholas Lambard, Lord Mayor 1531. After Ric. Raynolde's death, Blanche his widow became the wife of Robert Palmer, citizen and mercer (a) (whose will is dated 5 May, 1544, fo. 12 Pynnyng), and her last husband was Sir Wm. Forman, Knt., Lord Mayor 1538(b). Her will was proved 1573-4 (fo. 4 Stevenson), and by it she bequeathed "one hundred smockes of Locke-ram or canves to one hundred poore women in Oswestry," and also, subject to her suit in Flanders being "recovered," one hundred pounds to Oswestry for a lending fund and fifty pounds to the free school there.

William Watson the husband of Jane Stanye had by her a daughter Blanche, who married 1st Dunstan Walton. (See p. 57, *Visitation of London* 1568, pub. by Harleian Society), and 2nd, Sir Thomas Skynner, Knt., Lord Mayor 1596. The said Wm. Watson (who was a native of Co. Salop—see his will 1559, fo. 4 Mellershe) had also by Jane Stanye or by his other wife, a daughter Barbara, who married Thos. Hasilfoot, probably the person of that name who was grandson of Sir Stephen Peacock, Knt. Lord Mayor 1532. J.C.C.S.

a, Robert Palmer had a former wife Bridget, dau. of John West, Alderman of London, and by her had a son Sir Thos. Palmer, Knt. of Parham. See account of the family in Berry's *Sussex pedigrees*.

b, Col. Chester has kindly given me a note of the Marr. licence issued from the Faculty Office, thus: "1544 Aug. 30, Sir Wm. Forman, Kt. and Alderman of London, and Blanche Palmer of said city, widow;" this was only 117 days after the date of her previous husband's will.

QUERIES.

THE GOWER EXPRESS.—In the Nov. no. of *Good Words*, in a paper on "Oyster Dredging," at The Mumbles, we are told of an omnibus that starts from Swansea, called the "Gower Express," and its class rules are as follows:—"First-class passengers ride the whole way; second-class get out and walk up the hills; third-class get out and push up the hills." A similar story was once told in *Bye-gones* of a conveyance between Aberystwyth and Aberaeron. Is there or was there ever any truth in either story? SCEPTIC.

A WELSH GRETN-GREEN.—Mr. J. O. Halliwell, F.S.A., in some Notes on Wales printed (for private circulation), in 1860, gives an account of a place answering this description. He says that within a short walk of Trefnant, near Rhyl, is Ffynnon Vair, "which pours forth a small stream of water that runs down into the Elwy. The shrine-work which covered it has disappeared, but a small portion of the adjacent cruciform chapel, although a mere ruin, still remains, nearly covered with ivy, and embosomed in trees, the whole in a most secluded spot. The ruins appear to belong to a building of the fifteenth century. It is curious that, some time after the Reformation, this place should have been a kind of Gretna Green. Here runaway couples were married. In a register still preserved may be remarked several entries similar to the following:—"1611, Mem.

thatt upon Fridaye at night, happening upon vij. daye of Februarie, one Pyers Gryffith ab Inn Gryffydd, my brother in lawe, was married clandestinely with one Jane vch Thomas hys second wiefat the Chappel at Wicwer called Capel Fynnon Vair." Where is the register referred to by Mr. Halliwell kept? N.W.S.

REPLIES.

ST. OSWALD SLAIN AT OSWESTRY (June 26, 1878).—Several incidental, but on that account all the more valuable circumstances in confirmation of the death of St. Oswald at Oswestry have been brought to light by the study of the Welsh language and literature. The Bard Cynddelw, in the 12th century, in the poem entitled "Cân Tysiliaw," speaks of the intercession of St. Oswald being invoked by inhabitants of Montgomeryshire. The exclamation "Myn Oswal!" By Oswald! occurs in the writings of Guto'r Glyn, a Bard of the 15th century in a way that shows it was common in at least parts of North Wales in his time. And there is a proverbial expression given, in addition to the above, by Mr. T. G. Jones in his interesting collection of "Welsh Proverbs, Triads, and Truisms," in *Montgomeryshire Collections*, which, from its character of an "undesigned coincidence," is extremely remarkable. It is in vol. xi, p. 306, and is perhaps best stated in his own words: "No. 364. Myn 'Yswydd' neu 'Yswyn'; myn 'Oswy.' (As Oswy liveth; by Oswy.) An oath, a vow, an appeal, to 'Oswy,'—to 'Oswald' we presume. Used mainly when a person threatens revenge on another. 'Mi wnaf o yn 'Yswy' man'; I'll make him painfully small; I'll cut him up." Literally, "I will make a minced Oswald of him." That this saying must have been originally intended to refer to Oswald, and not to Oswy, is manifest from the allusion to his being cut in pieces, which is true of Oswald only, and not his brother, nor, again, can it refer to Oswelling. The story, which derived the name of Oswestry from Oswelling, a supposed son of Cunedda, is merely one link of the chain of fiction, made up of names of pretended sons or grandsons of that chieftain propounded as *eponymie* to account for the existence of names of various districts in Wales, as Ceredig of Ceredigion (Cardigan), and Meirion of Merioneth. Oswelling, if such a name ever existed, should have been not Cymric, but Saxon, meaning a descendant of Oswal. It is impossible but that such an expression could only have passed into a proverb at the time, and in the neighbourhood of the event to which it refers. Otherwise how was it that it became so intimately and indelibly associated with the thoughts and feelings of the people, as to survive their recollection of its history, and even the disappearance from the land of the ancient Faith and Church which had been in its origin inseparably bound up with that history?

H.W.L.

FLOODS IN SHROPSHIRE AND WALES. (Mar. 7, 1877).—Your readers will all of them remember the extraordinary dry summer of 1868. It was recorded on the 8th of July that year that the Severn was an inch lower than it was in 1826, when it reached a point lower than had been known by the oldest inhabitant. The summer of 1869 was also dry, but in the winter following we had storms and floods of more than usual abundance. On the 18th Dec. 1869, the Severn at Moat Lane was swollen to such an extent that the water covered many acres of land, and was up to the wood-work of the railway bridge at Caersws. At Llandloes many houses were flooded, and at Newtown a good deal of damage was done to furniture. On Sunday, the 19th of Dec., the people living at Coleham and Frankwell,

Shrewsbury, were "drowned out," the streets being several inches deep in water. At the bottom of Mardol some of the people had to be carried away in a waggon from their houses. From the Congregational Church to Longden, Coleham, a quarter of a mile, and from the entrance to the Smithfield-road in Chester-street to the London Apprentice Inn, Coton Hill, all was covered with water. Boats, coracles, and rafts were employed to convey provisions to the occupiers of several of the houses. The flood was said to be higher than at the well-known inundation of 1852; the Abbey Church being flooded, which was not the case then, and five only of the steps at the English Bridge being visible, against six in 1852. A horse and a stack of hay were seen floating down the river on the 21st.

Feb. 1767. Floods in Wales, such as "no man living ever saw before." In Oct. the same year, "extraordinary floods in Denbighshire, doing incredible damage."

Feb. 1768. Great floods in Caermarthenshire; several bridges borne down by the torrent. The deer in Tredegar-park saved by boats from being drowned. In July the same year inundations, caused by thunder-storms, in Herefordshire and Monmouthshire; the torrents pouring down from the mountains of Glamorganshire, "half ruined the country," and swept away men, women, and cattle, and laid the town of Neath under water. In Nov. the same year the flat country of Herefordshire and Shropshire was "a perfect sea," and the roads were rendered impassable. J.?.R.

OLD WELSH ALMANACKS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

(Nov. 20, 1878).

We give this week a fragment of "Thomas Jones's Almanack for 1712, or 1713, and the thirty-third of these annals." The title-page informs us that the book was printed and sold "Tan arwydd y Bêl rhwng Marchnad yr yd a Marchnad y Pysgod yn y Mwythig." We are also informed that "Thomas Jones's Almanack," and the books advertised in this Almanac are also sold at the following places:—

Yn ffair Gaerlleon wyl-Joan, wrth y ddwy Eglwys yn hewl y bont.

Ynghroesoswallt, gan Mr. Owen Hughes yn hewl y Baily.

Yn Llanfylling, gan Mr. Evan Evans.

Ynghaersws gan Mr. Thomas Evans.

Yn y Bala, gan Mr. Sammel Evans.

Ymmachynlleth, gan Mr. Thomas Pughe.

Yn Nhowyn meirionedd, gan Mr. Edward Hughs.

Yn Aberhonddu, gan Mr. Francis Powel, wrth borth y Striwt, trwy'r fwyddyn.

Ynghaerfyrddin, gan Mrs. Lewis.

Yn Rhuthyn a Dimbych, gan y Shopwyr a fyddau arfer o'u Gwerthu.

Ac mewn llawer o Drefydd a mannau Eraill ynghymru lle byddent Arfer o fod ar werth.

This Almanac has the following poetical contributions:—

1. "Carol Plygain," by E. E., gweinidog Eglwys Rhôs a Llandidno.
2. "Carol Plygain arall," by Ellis Cadwaladr.
3. "Carol i'r Seren wyl, neu ddydd Ystwyll," by Owen Gruffydd, Llanystumdwy.
4. "Carol yn erbyn Cybydd-dod a Balchder," by Owen Gruffydd.
5. "Cywydd i'r Arian," by E. E., gweinidog Eglwys Rhôs a Llandidno.
6. "Cyffes Hugh Morus ar ei Glâf wela," by Hugh Morus; Hugh Morus was of Pont y Meibion, Llansilin.
7. "Cywydd Marwnad Hugh Morus," by Owen Gruffydd o Sir Gaernarfon.
8. "Cerdid o ymddiffyniad i Thomas Jones yn erbyn ei waradwyddwr John Jones, ac eraill o'i ddi-

lynwyr ar y dôn a elwir *Heavy Heart*," by Sion Dafydd, o blwyf Llanfair y Clywedogau, yn Sir Aberteifi.

This John Jones, of Ty'n-y-Caeau, Wrexham, was a publisher of Welsh books. A good deal of bad feeling existed between him and Thomas Jones, yr Almanaciwr. Thomas Jones publicly accused him of stealing materials out of his Almanacs. Thomas Jones, the publisher of these Almanacs, was born at Tre'rddol, near Corwen, in 1647, and although a tailor by trade he latterly settled in Shrewsbury, where he printed and published several Welsh works. We append the Cywydd Marwnad by Owen Gruffyth.

CYFFIN.

CYWYDD MARWNAD HUGH MORUS Y BARDD.

Pruddhewch feirdd pereiddwyrch foes,
Prudd i ni priddo Einioes
Piler y gân, gyfan gû;
Pryd weddus yw Prydyddu,
Priddo a wnaed pur riddin iaith,
Priod addas prydiddiaeth,
Pinegl brô oedd o i'w ddydd,
Perchenog parch awenydd;
Perl awen pur olen-wych,
Puraidd glôd fel peraidd glych,
Pylwyd gwêdd palad y gerdd;
Peraidd wisgaid pur ddwys-gerdd,
Pallu a wnaeth pwyll a nerth;
Pen parod fardd, paen prydferth;
Prydydd Cymru a fu fo,
Pur gyfan, pair ei gofio;
Cyfan iawn, cofiwn ei waith,
A'i Naturiol nêd araith;
Hugh Morus, raenus rinwedd;
Râd wir barch, a roed i'r Beedd;
Dwys iawn brudd nad oes in brô
Yr un tebyg, rwi'n tybio.
Nag un bûrach gan barod;
O rwyam, a chîr rymm, a chlôd,
Ffrwd awenydd cynnydd cân,
A ddu Rewodd yrwan,
Gweuad mawl gauad ei môdd,
Pleth Euraidd in plith 'oerodd,
Eos awen, ie o Sywaeth,
Eiriau dwys i weryd aeth;
Oerodd y wawd euraidd wisg,
A'i Sâd union sidanwisg.
Pur oedd ei fâd ganiad gwin;
Hwyl assiad Taliesyn;
Ail i Homer, mwynder mawl;
Oedd ei ganiad ddigonawl;
Ai dæg glos-waith, da glywsoch;
Oedd ail i gerdd *Iolo* goch;
A'i fawl difyr fel *Dafydd*
Gwilim; a'i ddwys gwlwm i'w ddydd;
Fe ganodd Huw i Dduw'n dda,
Drwy Synwyr draw *Hosanna*,
Ni chanodd nêb wyneb iach;
O gu Synwyr gysnach;
Dwyn o'n hiaith brydyddiaith bri
A wnaeth Duw, ni waeth dewi;
Yn ein gwlad dywedriad didoll,
Saer y gerdd sy ar y goll;
Pa le'r ydych burwyd o'wyl;
Cywir ddodiad cerdd ddidwyl,
A'i glân ofon glyn afiaeth;
Yw eich trigfa mwynna maeth;
A'i'n Helicon haela cêd,
O ddawn awen ddi niwed;
Ach cerdd newydd deunydd dâ;
Trwy wych ammod trowch ymma.
Atteb.
O taw fardd wyt ofer ddydg,
A chnawdol am dduwiol ddydg;
Mae yn fy mhen awen iach,
Waith am gân i'th amgenach;
Ysprydol gân, diddan ddwys;
Pur i awdwr paradwys;
Mawl dirion ei mêl doraeth;
Gwiwrym gnwd i'g gwr am gwnaeth;

Ag am Prynodd gamp rinwedd
Ai dda les waed, ddilys wedd;
Cantorion Jor, mewn côr cu;
A'i Sain cynnes sy'n Canu,
Cerdd Aberth, cywir ddioben;
Ddiwr Râs i Dduw, ar Oen;
Hyn yw gwaith ein iaith y nef;
Fwyna dawn f' enaid inner;
Er cael o'r Corph gwblw orffen
(Oer fyw bach) ei yrfa i ben,
Mae Fy Enaid clyw i'w fyw fyth
Efo'r hael-fawr wehelyth,
Mewn nefol ddrych lwsywych len;
Ffri lewyrch, *ffarwel Owen*;

Y byn.

O Ffarwel *hoff* wir Alarch,
Cyff Awenydd pur-wydd, parch;
Poen annial im pen wnni,
Gwyno'n *ffol* ar eich ol chwi,
Yn brudd i'm bron cwyinion caf
O friv tyn am fy mrawd hynaf;
Brawd Awenydd, *ffrwythydd ffri*,
Rhywiog wr yn riagori;
Ar bawb o'i ol reol rwydd,
Oen haelwch, Awen hylwydd;
Rhedegwyr ruad Eglwan,
Rhagor ceir yn rhwygwyr Cân
A'u dawn oer yn dynvared,
Hen Athrawon, graslon gred
Organ mawl, ar gwin melys,
A aeth i lan, ethol lys,
Y Nefoedd wen, lawen lu,
Drwy gynydd draw i ganu;
Oed *Iesu* 'n dwyn, fad gwyn tydd
Wir Enrid yr Awenydd,
Mil saithgant clir, rhifir hyn,
A naw coeliwch yn canlyn;
Pan aeth Huw peniaeth awen;
Foddion hardd i'w fedd yn hen;
Yn iach i ni na chynnyg;
Iaith Euraidd, bleth iraid blyg,
Marw a wnaeth meirion Ethawl;
Yn iach i drin meillin mawl;
Trwy newid, tro anniwarth,
Truain cewch yn trin y carth;
Yn iach bleser llawer llys,
Yn iach fald wch felys,
Yn iach i Huw, nych yw hyn,
Yn iach Eiliad nai chalyn,
Yn iach Brydydd awch breudeg,
Yn iach ganiad tynniad teg;
Yn iach hyd ddydd Iechyd ddwys;
Pur i rodio paradwys;
Duw dad i ni dod yno,
Fyw oll i bowb; fellu bo.

OWEN GRUFFYTH o Sir gaernarfon a'u Cant.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CYMMRODORION SOCIETY, LONDON.—The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion held their annual meeting on Wednesday evening, Nov. the 20th, at the Freemasons' Tavern. There were present the Revs. D. J. Davies, Evan Jones, and John Davies, Messrs. Stephen Evans (chairman), Hugh Owen, Joseph Edwards, John Thomas (harpist), J. Ignatius Williams, H. Lloyd Roberts, E. Arthur Hughes, John Owens, John Davies (Mynorydd), George Marsden, W. S. J. Hancock, Howell Thomas, W. E. Davies, T. M. Williams, — Lewis, C. W. Jones, &c.—The Secretary, Mr C. W. Jones, read the report for the year ending October, 1878, which contained allusions to the loss the Society has suffered by the death of Gobebydd, who took the principal part in reviving the ancient Cymmrodorion Society in 1873. Reference was made to the decision referred to in the last year's report, to obtain a medal for the Society which might be awarded for the encouragement of certain objects coming within the scope of the Society's aim. The Council had the

gratification of announcing that Mr. Joseph Edwards, a member of the Society, had designed a medal of singular merit, which had been adopted by them. Allusion was made to the "Cymmrodorion Section," which was tried in connection with the late Birkenhead Eisteddfod. The Council were of opinion that this attempt might be resumed at the next National Eisteddfod, with confident hope of success. The Council also desired to express their strong sympathy with the efforts which are made to oppose the proposed alienation of the exhibitions at Jesus College, Oxford. It was intended to convene a meeting of the members to consider the subject, and to determine on the best measures to be adopted for protecting the "rightful heritage" of the Welsh in connection with the College. With reference to the *Cymmrodor* (the Society's publication) for the past year, it was stated that the remaining portion of Wylliam Salesbury's dictionary had been issued to the members. The receipts of the Society for the past year, with the balance brought forward, was £206 13s. 8d.; the expenditure amounting to £197 0s. 4d. which gave a balance in favour of the Society of £9 13s. 4d. Mr. Hugh Owen seconded the proposal to adopt the report. Some friendly discussion then followed; Mr. T. M. Williams thought that greater services to national purposes were within the scope of the Society than had hitherto been given. Mr. Lewis regarded the *Cymmrodor* as capable of improvement, and proposed that a Committee be appointed to aid the editor in bringing the *Cymmrodor* into a better position, if possible. The matter was however referred to the Council. Mr. John Thomas was of opinion that the Society should identify itself more closely with the Eisteddfodic Institution, with which the national sympathies of the people of Wales were very strong. The influence of the Society might be used with advantage in the selection of subjects and prizes, as, in his opinion, many of the subjects proposed for competition were injudiciously selected, and the prizes might be better adjusted to the importance of the subjects. He paid a high compliment to the ability of the editor of the *Cymmrodor*, and Mr. Thomas, adopting an amendment by Mr. Hancock, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Robert Jones, B.A., for his devotion to the interests of the journal and the ability displayed in its management, and regretting that his health did not permit his being present at that meeting. Mr. T. M. Williams, B.A., supported the proposition which was carried unanimously. The report was then adopted. All the members of the Council were re-elected, and votes of thanks were passed to the lecturers who had given their services to the Society during the year, to the Chairman of the Council, to Mr. Hugh Owen, and to Mr. C. W. Jones, the secretary. At the close of these proceedings the members present went to the "Holborn" where they sat down to a choice dinner specially provided for them. The Band of that establishment contributed to the enjoyment of the guests. After dinner the chair was again occupied by Mr. Stephen Evans, and the vice-chair by Mr. Ignatius Williams, the usual loyal patriotic and complimentary toasts were given, and a pleasant evening was spent.

The fourth of the series of Gilchrist lectures at Chester was delivered by Professor Boyd Dawkins on our "Earliest Ancestors in Britain."

At the meeting of the British Archaeological Association, Nov. 20, the Rev. S. M. Mayhew described a large club of limestone found by him in an early British camp in North Wales; the club had evidently undergone the action of fire.

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BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES,

(Oct. 23, 1878.)

CADWALLADER, ROGER, a Roman Catholic priest, born at Stretton Sugwas, near Hereford, was a good man, although he did not worship his God after the manner most agreeable to that selfish and conceited King, James the first. This unfortunate man had been ordained abroad, and for presuming to minister to his co-religionists in England he was dragged before the Judges of Assize in 1610, was tried, condemned, executed, and quartered! A more detestable crime against humanity and religion was never perpetrated, and the name of the intrepid sufferer must stand far higher in the estimation of every good man than that of the intolerant monarch who permitted this cruel sentence to be carried out, in all its hideous atrocity.

CALCOTT, WELLINS, author of a very interesting volume entitled "Thoughts, Moral and Divine," and which has passed through several editions, was according to his own statement in the dedication of that work to Earl Powis, "A native of the county of Salop, a Burgess of the town of Shrewsbury, and son of a late member of that Corporation." Some other works have been attributed to him, but we have not seen them.

CALDECOTT, RALPH, who died about the close of the seventeenth century was a native of Caldecott in Cheshire, and the last of a race, which had been settled in that place since the day of Edward the Second. He had been educated for the Church at Oxford, where he eventually became D.D., and had the reputation of being a good scholar, a sound divine, and a masterly preacher.

CALDECOTT, RANDOLPH, born at Chester in 1846, was educated at the King's School in that city, where he gained the Dean's prize, the highest distinction then to be secured. He began life as a banker's clerk, but the pencil had far higher claims upon his affections than the desk, and in 1872 he threw off all the restraints of office life, and began his artistic career in earnest. Some of his earliest drawings appeared in *London Society* and *Punch*. Afterwards he contributed largely to the *Graphic*, *Pictorial World*, and other publications. Mr. Blackburn's "Hunting Mountains" he partly illustrated, and wholly, "Old Christmas," "Branbridge Hall," and "North Italian Folk," by Mrs. Carr. In 1876 an oil painting of his was exhibited at the Royal Academy, also some bas reliefs, and altogether the young Cestrian Artist is on the high-way to fame; the pioneer, we may hope, to distinctions which in the future may fall to the lot of many Chester King's scholars.

CALFHILL, JAMES, a native of Shropshire, and admitted at Oxford 1545, student at Christ Church 1548, in 1552, second canon of Christ Church, 1560, D.D., Dean of Barking and Archdeacon of Colchester, was nominated to the see of Worcester, 1570, but died before consecration. He wrote "Prague," a Tragedy in Latin, 1566, and several other works. Wood says that "he was in his younger days a noted poet and comedian, and in his later years an exact disputant, and possessed an excellent faculty in speaking and preaching."

CALVELEY, HUGH, born at Huntingdon, near Chester, in the year 1783, who, although unable from bad health to make much progress in mental studies, has a history of his own full of interest to all Englishmen who have read of the sore trials this country passed through during the French wars. Mr. Calveley was sent to the West Indies for change of air, and when returning home

his ship was carried by a French cruiser to Guadaloupe, and there he was kept prisoner till 1803; in that year he returned home, and at once obtained a commission in the Royal Cheshire Militia, serving with his regiment till the close of the war in 1815. This ailing man outlived all his old comrades, and after a lapse of forty years saw his old regiment re-embodied, and had the pleasure of witnessing its evolutions for many a season afterwards. He died in 1868, in his 86th year—one of the last survivors of a very gallant race of Cheshire patriots, who had combined to serve their country at a time when dangers beset her on every side.

CAPENHURST, THOMAS, who was the 12th Abbot of the Monastery at Chester, and who succeeded to that office in 1249 was a younger son of the family of that name settled at Capenhurst, near Chester. His life was a long struggle for the rights of his order, in opposition to powerful enemies, who endeavoured to wrest from the Convent valuable estates given to it from time to time. Roger de Montalt, Roger Venables, and William la Zuche, are named among the laymen who gave him trouble, but if we are to credit old records, our worthy Abbot was a match for the whole of them, and succeeded in saving for his beloved monastery many valuable heritages, which the ruthless swordsmen had vainly endeavoured to snatch from it.

CARELESS, ROGER, who was born at Albrighton, Salop, about 1297, and who held large estates there, is recorded to have left at his death "a fair quantity of land" to found a charity in the church of that place, being reputed "a godlye and holie man," who doubtless felt that it was well to make some provision for the peace of his soul when he had done with this world's troubles. He is supposed to have died about 1353.

CARESWELL, EDWARD, a Shropshireman whose name should be very dear to the young Salopians, seeing that he in 1659 left about eleven hundred acres of land chargeable with the maintenance of eighteen scholars at Christ Church, Oxford, four to be chosen from Shrewsbury, three from Bridgnorth, four from Newport, three from Shifnal, two from Wem, and two from Donington Schools. To do Salop justice, her sons in all ages have been munificent contributors to educational purposes, and she may well claim the proud distinction of having led the van in this respect over all the four border counties.

CARPENTER, GEORGE, (LORD,) was born at Pitcher's Ochil, in Herefordshire, in 1657, and was remarkable for his classical attainments. He began life in his fourteenth year, when he went out to France in the train of Earl Montague, and from that time down to 1714, when he was elected member of Parliament for Whitchurch in Hampshire, his career in the army was brilliant and most honourable. In 1715 he was appointed envoy extraordinary to the Court of Vienna, in 1716, commander-in-chief of the king's forces in Scotland, and Governor of Minorca, and in 1719 he was created an Irish baron. The electors of Westminster returned him to Parliament in 1722, and most honourably did he fulfil the duties confided to him. He died in 1731.

CAWLEY, RICHARD, was born at Alpraham, in Cheshire, in the year 1716, his father being a respectable freeholder in that county, and a Nonconformist. He was well brought up, well educated, of correct conduct, and of a superior mind. Though a Baptist in principle, it was he who first opened his door to the Methodist preachers in Cheshire, and the reverence with which he was regarded by rich and poor, young and old,

saint and sinner, secured for that despised people a degree of consideration and fair play, which it was rarely their lot to meet with elsewhere. Mr. Cawley was a neighbour and friend of Mr. Davenport, a principal person in that part of Cheshire, and at that gentleman's request he took Mr. Wesley to his house. We can understand how such a visit would tell upon the country people, and how gradually, with the decay of prejudice, they would listen to Methodist preachers who had secured the confidence of the squire. This is not the place to write Mr. Cawley's life; it is enough to say of him that he was the early friend, the beneficent supporter, and the wise protector of the early Methodists in his native county.

CHADLE, ROWLAND, who was rector of Beaumaris in 1647, though descended from a Lancashire family, was himself, according to Richard Llwyd's MS., a native of Cheshire. He was a joyous and waggish person, and it is related of him that finding the postmaster of Beaumaris drunk and lying upon his face asleep in the street, he wrote in chalk upon his back POST PAID. To a lady of his acquaintance he sent upon one occasion a Valentine in these words:—

"Good madam, would that the man who you thus meets
In these small papers, met you in whole sheets."
But with all his frolicsome humour he was a good, kind man, a true friend, an excellent poet, and Mr. Llwyd adds, "the best of antiquaries."

CHALINOR, JAMES, grandson of Thomas Chalinor, an arms painter at Chester, was a native of that city, and author of the concise, accurate, and sensible account of the Isle of Man, which appeared at the end of King's Vale Royal, published in 1656. He had received a good education at the Grammar School of his native city, and became acquainted with the Isle of Man as one of the three Commissioners appointed by Lord Fairfax for settling the affairs of that Island.

CHAMBRE, ROWLAND, a native of Shropshire, and a member of an old family of that name long settled in the county, was brought up to the Church, and became a very respectable and admired preacher in her communion. A sermon which he preached at St. Chad's Church, Salop, in 1759, before the Regiment of Royal Volunteers for that county, on their first receiving the colours, has been published under the title of "Religion the principle and support of national courage."

CHAMBRE, WILLIAM ROWLAND, born in Shropshire in the year 1731, having been educated for the Church, was presented in the year 1760 to the living of Thornton, near Chester. He died in 1796, and a monument was put up to his memory within the Church, with this inscription upon it—"To the memory of the Rev. William Rowland Chambre, late Rector of this parish. He was presented to this Church in the year 1760, when, no predecessor having resided within memory of man, it devolved upon him to refit the parsonage, erect several additional buildings, and decorate the grounds about it. He resided here during his incumbency, and died on the 10th day of December, in the year of our Lord 1796, aged 65." The implied honour paid to him in that record is far too small a tribute to the excellence of the man, for he not only helped to improve the material edifice committed to his charge, but had a care for immortal souls, and a living faith in the Gospel which he proclaimed to those around him.

CHARLETON, EDWARD, fifth Baron of Powis, in the Charleton line, was born in Shropshire, and upon the

death of his brother in 1401, he succeeded to the honours of his house and to the vast possessions vested in it. He married Alianor, daughter of Thomas, Earl of Kent, who by a former marriage, was grandmother to Richard, Duke of York. He had by her two daughters: Jane, married to John Gray, and Joyce, married to John Lord Tiptoft. He married secondly Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Barkley, and dying in 1420, his great estates were divided into three parts, one share going to his widow, Elizabeth, one to his eldest daughter, Jane, and the remaining share to his youngest daughter, Joyce. The historic Barony of Powis passed from the Carletons to the Grays, for Henry Gray, who had married Jane Charleton, acquired it in right of his wife, and in that family it continued through four more generations, ending with Edward Gray, Lord Powis, who married Anne, daughter of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, but who died without leaving issue. In the sore times when the borderers had their hands full in defending themselves against their Welsh neighbours, these Charleton's had shewn their prowess upon many a bloody field, and if we are to credit all that is said of Edward Charleton, he did honour to his name and station, for he knew how to temper justice with mercy, and to deal generously with a brave but vanquished foe.

CHARLETON, SIR JOB, was born at Ludford, in Herefordshire, and being a gentleman "very learned in the law," he became Chief Justice of Chester, and afterwards one of the Judges of the Common Pleas. In 1686 he was created a Bart., and made Speaker of the House of Commons. He died in 1697. There are many scattered references made to this learned man, and the character he bore, coupled with the eminence he attained to, entitles him to a far better notice than we can give him in these records.

CHARLETON, JOHN, born at Arpley, Shropshire, 1268, had bestowed upon him in marriage by King Edward the Second, Hawys Gadern, the only daughter and heir of Owen ap Gruffyth. He thus acquired a great inheritance, for upon inquiry it was found that Gruffyth ap Meredith, ancestor to Hawys, had upon his submission to King Henry the First been created Baron of Powys, and that he, and his held the same in capite, and it was ordained that Hawys "should enjoy his inheritance in fee simple to him and his heirs for ever after the tenure of England." Charleton upon his marriage was made Lord Powys, and dying in 1353 he left a son, John, who succeeded; he died in 1360, leaving a son, John, who succeeded, and he dying in 1371 left two sons—John, the eldest, who died without issue in 1401, and Edward, who succeeded to the Barony, and held the same for nineteen years, as has been mentioned under a preceding notice. The originator of this line in the Charleton blood was a man greatly distinguished in history, wise, discreet, and daring, and take him for all in all he fittingly represents the chivalry of his times.

CHARLETON, LEWIS DE, was born in Monmouthshire, and was first brought up at Oxford and afterwards at Cambridge. In the year 1357 he became Chancellor of Oxford, and being a learned divine, and expert in the mathematics he was preferred to the See of Hereford by the Pope's Bull, dated 1361. He continued Bishop of that diocese for eight years, and dying in 1369, his body was buried within the cathedral church of the city of Hereford.

CHARLETON, THOMAS, was born at Arpley in the county of Salop, and having gone into the Church distinguished himself as a minister. He was eventually

promoted to be Bishop of Bath and Wells, and died in 1292. It is said to his dishonour that he was "an exacting man," but this probably only meant that he would not permit the exacting laymen of his time to rob the Church of her possessions. The sword was the instrument used in old times to add field to field, and soldiers, as a rule, cast their longing eyes upon Church lands. Intrigue did the work in later times, and when the eighth Henry came to the throne "a consuming love for religion" was the excuse under which laymen were made rich, and the Church was beggared.

CHESSHIRE, SIR JOHN, a native of Cheshire, founded in 1733 a Public Library, which is placed near Norton Church in that county, the curate of the church being appointed librarian to it. The donor selected the original part of it himself, consisting of some rare and valuable books. It also contained a great number of ecclesiastical works, but the more modern additions made to it, consist chiefly of a more popular description of literature.

CHESHYRE, ROBERT, born at Halewood, near Runcorn, Cheshire, is supposed to have been the elder brother of Sir John Cheshyre, who in 1705 was made a sergeant at law. This gentleman was educated for the Church, and upon the death of Archdeacon Fynmore (whose daughter he had married), we find him Vicar of Runcorn. How long he had held that living, before that time, is not very clear, but he had done the duty of the office for some time previously. He was both a learned and a pious man, and according to a manuscript account of Runcorn, written during his life, he is spoken of in terms of marked eulogy as "the friend and protector of the poor, and a great supporter of religious education." He died in 1739, and his son two years afterwards is mentioned in the same MS. as "High Sheriff of Chester," his uncle, Sir John, dying without issue, he, it is said, succeeded to his estates, upon the death of Lady Cheshyre in 1756.

CHOLMONDELEY, CHARLES, born at Moreton Say in Shropshire, in the year 1825, is the eldest son of the late Mr. Cholmondeley, incumbent of that parish, by a daughter of Reginald Heber rector of Higher Malpas 1780-1804. He is thus nephew to Richard Heber, the celebrated Bibliologist, and also to the well known Reginald Heber, Bishop of Calcutta. Mr. Cholmondeley was educated first under a private tutor at home, afterwards at Rugby under Arnold and Tait, and then at Trinity College, Cambridge. During his residence at the latter place, he studied with much care the questions in difference between the Catholics and Protestants and after much reflection he felt bound to abandon his intention of entering into the ministry of the Church of England, and was led to join the communion of the Church of Rome. This resolution would seem to be arrived at about 1850, and no one can doubt that the step so taken was otherwise than honourable in a gentleman who had considered well the path of duty before finally adopting it. In 1854 Mr. Cholmondeley published an 8vo volume entitled "Sixteen Articles on the Protestant doctrine of Justification by Faith," and we can trace in that work some of the serious influences which led to the withdrawal of the author from the Protestant communion. This is not the place to discuss theological questions; it is sufficient to know that when the very highest interests of religion are at stake, good men can honestly differ upon questions of faith, and still cling very closely and sincerely to the great Head of the Church as the all-sufficient Saviour from sin. Mr. Cholmondeley

spent the years 1856—1860 at Rome, studying under the Jesuits, and between that time and 1870 he lived in England, promoting as best he could the interests of religion in connection with his own Church. He was ordained priest in the latter year, and, by favour of the Pope he became at the same time or soon afterwards a Canon of the Chapter of the diocese of Shrewsbury, his residence being fixed at Chester. To his efforts mainly his co-religionists owe the erection of the new church of St. Werburgh in that city. He also aided in completing the Franciscan church and monastery founded there some years before, and he has in divers other ways evinced his strong attachment to the Church of his adoption, and his desire to further the interests of religion in England through her instrumentality. Mr. Canon Cholmondeley's relation to the Delameres of Vale Royal would naturally enhance his influence in Cheshire, and we cannot wonder, therefore, to find him co-operating heartily with the Protestant clergy and laity of Chester in every work of mercy whereby the poor and afflicted are relieved, and the moral condition of the community improved.

— The light of pleasures fled
And hopes long dead—

are thus renewed by God's mercy in the hearts of men, and we cannot doubt that when the last great day comes, it will be seen how the work of redemption from sin has often been silently promoted in this humble way, and that the cup of cold water given to Christ's disciples in His name has been abundantly blessed, both to the giver and to the recipient of it.

CHOLMONDELEY, FRANCIS, born at Vale Royal, in Cheshire, is to be mentioned with honour, as a gentleman who suffered much on account of his honesty of purpose as a politician. He was a high Tory, who clung very firmly to the Stuart interest, "refusing allegiance to King William in the most distinguished manner, opposing not only his being declared King by the Parliament, but after he was so declared, refusing to take the oaths to him, whereupon he was sent to the Tower to think over his perversity" at leisure. No doubt the powers that be, were legally justified in so punishing Mr. Cholmondeley, but we are bound to admire the courage and consistency of the man who could thus sacrifice his liberty to the calls of conscience, and who proved in his own person how much better it is to do right and to suffer, than to conform to unjust laws to secure ease, honours, and wealth.

CHOLMONDELEY, GEORGE, second Earl, was a native of Cheshire, and a person of immense influence in his county. He and his brother, Hugh, had thrown themselves into the cause of the Revolution heart and soul, and he being a military officer of experience, was found to be most useful to William, Prince of Orange, when that prince came over to England to take possession of the throne. He commanded the Horse Grenadier Guards at the battle of the Boyne, and in 1714 was made an Irish peer. In 1716 he was created a peer of England by the title of Baron Newbridge, in the Isle of Anglesey. On the death of his brother in 1724 he succeeded to his honours and estates, and died in 1733.

CHOLMONDELEY, SIR HUGH, was born in Cheshire in the year 1515, and occupied in his time one of the foremost places in the history of England. He was five times sheriff of his native county when it was a real honour to fill that office, one of the deputy-lieutenants, vice-president of the Marches of Wales, and in the absence of Sir Henry Sidney, Lord Deputy of Ireland. It is said of him that he fulfilled every office he held, with credit and honesty, and that he died in 1597 "much lamented by all who knew him."

CHOLMONDELEY, HUGH, eldest son of Richard Cholmondeley, was born in Cheshire in the fifth year of Henry 8th, and succeeded to his father's estates when he was twenty-five years old. Six years afterwards he accompanied the Duke of Norfolk upon an expedition against the Scots, and for his valiant behaviour on that occasion was knighted. In 1557 he equipped one hundred men at his own expense, and marched with them to Scotland to serve under the Earl of Derby, who had been sent there to oppose a threatened invasion of England by that nation. This gentleman was distinguished for bravery, great hospitality, and unaffected piety, and living to a great age (dying in 1596) he added both to the wealth and honours of his house, if he did not indeed place it at the very head of the aristocracy of his country.

CHOLMONDELEY, HUGH, son of the last-named, was born in Cheshire in the year 1550, his mother being Agnes Hill, of Malpas, in the same county. He was a steady adherent to the Protestant religion (as was his father before him), and when quite a young man he marched at the head of one hundred and thirty retainers, raised by his father, to assist in the suppression of a Popish rebellion begun in the 12th year of Elizabeth. He again added to the estates of his family by his marriage with Mary, sole heir of Christopher Holford, of Holford, in Cheshire, a descendant through Alice, daughter of Hugh Kivelock, (and sister of Earl Randle,) one of the ancient Earles of Chester. He died in the 43rd of Elizabeth, and was buried at Malpas.

CHOLMONDELEY, HUGH, second viscount, was born in Cheshire, and in 1681 he succeeded to the honours and estates of his father, who had in 1661 been created a viscount. This nobleman was a very zealous supporter of the Protestant cause during the Revolution, and much esteemed by William and Mary. As a staunch adherent to their interests, he was created in 1689 Baron Cholmondeley of Nantwich in the peerage of England, and in 1706 he was still further honoured with the dignity of Viscount Malpas in Cheshire, and Earl of Cholmondeley, with a reversion to his brother. He died unmarried in 1724.

CHOLMONDELEY, LADY MARY, termed by King James "The Bold Lady of Cheshire," was a daughter of Christopher Holford, of Newborough, in Cheshire, and born at that place. Her father died in 1581, and she having married Sir Hugh Cholmondeley, claimed her father's lands at Holford against her uncle George Holford, who asserted his right to them as the male representative of his family. "The Bold Lady" could not brook this act of interference with her superior claim, and for more than forty years she contested the question in dispute in the courts of law. At last the matter was settled by the intervention of friends, and it is gratifying to know that although this brave woman did not obtain all she claimed, she had her full half of her father's possessions, and that the old manor house of Holford, which had been for generations in her family, fell to her lot. Apart from the courage which induced the King to designate her as he did, she had many claims to our regard, for she was good to the poor, pious in her life, happy in her death, and "a lady every inch of her."

CHOLMONDELEY, RANDLE, second son of Richard, by Elizabeth Brereton, was born in Cheshire, early in the sixteenth century, and "he died in April, 1563, without issue," it is generally said. That is not so, for he had a daughter, Maud, who married Raiffe Norbury, a Cheshire man and a lawyer, living in London, in the very year when his father-in-law died, and their grandson,

Cholmondeley Norbury, was living in Derbyshire, 1714. Randle was brought up to the law, and in the 6th year of Edward VI. was Lent reader to the honourable society of Lincoln's Inn. In the last year of Philip and Mary he was elected serjeant-at-law, and he appears to have been well versed in the principles of his profession, and to have acquired some distinction in it.

CHOLMONDELEY, RICHARD, was the eldest son of Hugh de Cholmondeley, and born in Cheshire. He was summoned in the 13th year of Edward II. to the Court of Pleas at Chester to answer Thomas, Abbot of St. Werburgh, why he destrained the chattles of the said Abbot. In the same year he summoned the Abbot to answer why he destrained his chattles, and we may gather from this, that the two great magnates did not live at peace, and in amity the one with the other. He was living in 31, Edward III., and was stiled "Lord of Cholmondeley," but he must have died about that time, for shortly afterwards his son was in possession of his estates, and he died, in the 35th year of the same monarch.

CHOLMONDELEY, RICHARD, of the same family as the last, but descended from his brother William, was a native of Cheshire and brought up to the law. He was one of the justices before whom fines were levied from 17th Henry VII. to 24, Henry VIII. He died in the 30th year of that monarch's reign, "seized of the manors of Cholmondeley, Church Minshull, and Aston, and divers other manors" in Cheshire. He had married Elizabeth Brereton, daughter of Sir Randle Brereton, chamberlain of Cheshire, and was father both to a Hugh and Randle, who have been already mentioned. It is said of him that he "saved much money by a careful administration of his affairs, but he was also a generous friend to all who needed help, and had as open a hand as he had a tender heart for the poor and needy."

CHURCH, THOMAS, a native of Shrewsbury, appears to have entered the Grammar School of that town in 1562, and to have proceeded to Cambridge for his university learning. He became M.A. there, but no mention is made of him by Mr. Blakeway. In 1608, however, he was a benefactor to the library of his old school, and in Bishop Cotton's MSS. he is alluded to "as a sound divine and a fair scholar." The time of his death is not noted, but in 1615 one Thomas Church, "a Salopian," died in London, and this may possibly give some clue to the date of our worthy's death.

CHURTON, RALPH, was born at Bickley, in Cheshire, in 1754. He was educated at Malpas, from whence he removed in 1772 to Oxford. In 1778 he was elected a fellow of his College—1785 was chosen Bampton lecturer, and in 1805 collated Archdeacon of St. David's. His published works are numerous and valuable. He died in 1831. He is not to be confounded with another Ralph belonging to a Cheshire family of the same name, for according to a pedigree we have seen of both families the lines are altogether different.

CLARE, GILBERT DE, son and successor of Walter de Clare, who founded the beautiful Abbey of Tintern "for the good of his soul, and the souls of his kinsmen," is according to tradition, entitled to mention as a native of Monmouthshire. The father died in 1139, and the son then became "lord of all his lands, and the enricher of the famous Abbey," and we may suppose the friend and protector of the brotherhood, who dwelt within its holy cloistered walls. This same Gilbert comes down in history

commended to us, as the grandfather of the great Strongbow, who subjugated Leinster, and who afterwards married Eve, the daughter of Dermot, sovereign of that country; but we chiefly love to dwell upon his remains, as they lie interred within the Abbey since A.D. 1148 when he died; and to think of the innumerable prayers offered up for his soul by the "holy brotherhood," who were paid for doing homage in this manner, to the "goodness and greatness of their patron and friend, whose spirit hovered over them, as they lifted up their hearts to Him, who could alone give it peace."

In such a spot as this, at such an hour,
If aught of ancestry can be believed,
Descending angels have conversed with man,
And told the secrets of the world unknown.

What remained of Gilbert de Clare, when more than seven hundred years ago, his body was laid in the earth below, has long passed into dust; but Tintern's glories remain, a beauteous and lasting witness to the De Clares of old, and to this one in particular.

CLARK, HESTER, a widow lady, born at Leominster, Herefordshire, in 1735, erected some alms-houses in that town for the benefit of poor widows left destitute. She must have been somewhat of a wag, or, some wag after her death adopted a curious mode of directing attention to her gift, for the ludicrous figure of a man with a hatchet in his hand has been placed upon the front of one of the houses, and upon the hatchet has been cut the following lines—

He who gives away all, before he's dead,
Let him take this hatchet and knock him on the head.

A friend tells us that these lines were put up by direction of Mrs. Clark, but we prefer to think otherwise, and in the absence of evidence to the contrary, we have ventured to suggest that some "wag" did so of his own notion.

CLEGG, WILLIAM, born at West Kirby, in Cheshire, left at his death in 1636 a parcel of land for the support of a schoolmaster in that parish, producing in 1860 a rental of fifty pounds per annum. The proximity of this place to Birkenhead and Liverpool, and its adaptability of becoming a favourite residential place for visitors should make this benefaction worth at least five or six times the amount mentioned above. How, or by whom, the benefaction is administered, we know not, sufficeth it to say, that Clegg's gift deserves good management at a time when educational acquirements have become a rage in England.

CLEBURY, ADAM DE, born, it is supposed, in the place of that name in Shropshire, having been Prior of the Abbey of Shrewsbury, was in 1333 chosen Abbot thereof, being the twentieth who had succeeded to that office. Mr. Blakeway notices a curious bargain that had been entered into between this Abbot and King Edward III. Under the ancient charter the monks had been allowed to cut down timber in the King's woods throughout Shropshire, but under the last named arrangement the monks gave up that privilege in consideration of having had granted to them the wood of Lythesonde for their sole use. They paid a fine of one hundred pounds, and further undertook to pay the King a yearly rent of three pounds. In 1354 Roger, Bishop of Lichfield, officially visited the Abbey, and he informs the Abbot and his convent that "he found them by manifest tokens fessingling, and flourishing with one mind in the observance of holy religion, and in the obedience of divine worship, and the sweetness of charity." This Abbot died 1355.

CLEMENT, WILLIAM JAMES, a native of Shrewsbury, and educated at the Grammar School of that town, became eminent as a surgeon and general practitioner. He settled at Shrewsbury in the practice of his profession, and was so popular among his townsmen that they, in 1865, returned him to Parliament as one of their members. He published a book on Surgery, which has been well spoken of, and he also published other small things anonymously.

CLIFFORD, ANNE, daughter of George Clifford, third Earl of Cumberland, by Margaret, daughter of the Earl of Bedford, was born, it is said, upon (very scant authority however), in Herefordshire, during the visit of her parents to that neighbourhood. She married first, Richard, Earl of Dorset, and afterwards, Philip, Earl of Pembroke, and is known to most readers as the author of an admirable letter to Sir Joseph Williamson, when Secretary of State to Charles II., who wished to name a candidate for her borough of Appleby. She replied, "I have been bullied by an usurper, I have been neglected by a court, but I will not be dictated to by a subject. Your man shant stand.—ANNE DORSET, PEMBROKE AND MONTGOMERY." She certainly possessed a fair share of the border spirit, and Dr. Donne says of her that "She well knew how to discourse of all things, from predestination to flea silk."

CLIFFORD, ROSAMOND, was born at Clifford Castle, Herefordshire, if we are to believe the story of "Fair Rosamond" at all. A story that has been deemed worthy the attention of the poet and historian must needs, however, for the purpose of this notice, be taken as true, but how she lived with King Henry at Woodstock, hidden in a bower, and how by accident she was found by the Queen, and came to a cruel end, needs not be told, for the touching incidents of her life and death are as well known to all readers of fable as they are to the more sober sort, who will only speak of her name in whispers. Dryden says her name was Jane.

Jane Clifford was her name, as books aver,
Fair Rosamond was but her nom de guerre.

In the Register of Godstow Nunnery she is called Rosamond, her name being Rose, the remainder, the addition of her royal lover, otherwise, Rosamonde—la rose of peace, for Henry loved her tenderly, and found a peace in her society which he could never possess in that of his Queen. It is supposed that Rosamond died in 1177.

CLIVE, ROBERT, of The Styche, near Market Drayton, in Shropshire, was born within, or upon the confines of that parish. He was a formidable Roundhead, active in the Civil Wars, and a Colonel in the forces. In 1665, Sir Richard Otley was ordered to apprehend him "as a traitor and a rebel." The loyal inhabitants of Shrewsbury held him in terror, and somewhat profanely prayed—

"From Wem and from Wyche,
And from Clive of the Styche,
Good Lord, deliver us."

This gallant "rebel" managed to secure the favour of the fickle but good-natured King Charles II., and in 1674 he was high sheriff of Shropshire! There was a noble and brave soul within this man, and he was doubtless as true to his sovereign lord and king in 1674 as he had been true to the Commonwealth aforetime. He changed, not from mere restlessness, but, as many others did, from a strong conviction that monarchy after all was the best form of government for England.

DECEMBER 4, 1878.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.
(Nov. 20, 1878).

xxiiij octobyr a° 1579
At w'ch day Willim Gor & Rich ap John ap m'red gent bayliffe of this towne had the viewe of the charters above said & the same beinge tene [ten] in number wth the seal & bylles & mynyments above sayd
the elne of yron
the yarde of yron

Wylly'm Goughe
Richard John will'

The second day of november
an° R.R. xxij yeare of the
Reiyn of our soverayng ladye
Elyzabeth queene of england
fraunce and yerland &c

at wiche daye thom's lloyd Edd Edd's gentyllmen have Reseved of William Gor and Ryc ap John ap Mredydd gentyllmen late bayliffs of the towne of Oswestree of the chartys pertaining to the sayd towne in number tenne w'th other lett's and mynments in ij boxys w'th the towne seale oryearne yeard and hauf ell of the same wt ij peare of boult's and ij hasp lockes i gune and a flag and an armynge surde one seale

Thomas lloyd
Edd Edwards

Mde that the xiiijte day of October

Anno R.R. Elizabeth xxiiijth 1581

At w'ch day Richard lloyd and Richard Will'ms gentlemen have received and had of Thom's lloyd and david Edwards gent late bailliffes of Oswestree of the Charters p'teyning to the said towne in number tenne w'th other Pres & mynyments in two boxes with the towne Seale / a Iron yarde & halffe ellne of the same w'th two pr. of Bowlts & two house locks and corslett & a moreu

Ric' lloyd
Rich'd Will'ms

3 : maij. 1582

On this daye Rich : Gittyns m'r'r / And Bartholomew Jenyns tann'r were in open allecon mad and sworne Burgenss of this towne and Bartholomew Gittyns & Ric Gittyns sonnes of the said Rich : Gittyns. / And also phellip Jenyns, J'n Jenyns, Thom's Jenyns / & R'r'r Jenyns sonnes of the said Bartholomew Jenyns were admitted Burgenss of the s'd. towne / And be it remembered y't they were made by the licence of the right honorable Earle of Arundell (y't nowe is) w'ch was published in open c'rt by the right worshipful Lawrence Banaster esquier Steward of the said towne / And for their freedom & burgenship aforesaid / the s'd Rich : Gittyns hath paid vii, & the said Bartholomew Jenyns hath not only paid xxli but also undertaken & promised to pay or do pay other som or acte more as Thom's Evance & Rich : Will'ms newe Bailiffs of the sd towne willing upon him

Th: Evance	} aldermen or Bailliffes present
Rychd Will's	
Thomas lloyd	
John Edwards	
Hughe Yale	
Rychard Staney	
Edd Edwards	

Thomas Kynaston, murynger.

Md. that in the said May a° 1582 Sir George Bromley knight justice of Chester &c was made & sworn burgesses of the said Towne./ And his childrne begotten & to be begotten were then made & admitted to be burgenss there /

Th: Evance } then
Richard Willms } bailiffs

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN BRIDGNORTH.—

The following extract from an account of Bridgnorth, written in an old copy book of "Henry Percy," the only son of Bishop Percy, the author of the *Percy Reliques* of Ancient English poetry, dated May 9th, 1775, may be interesting to some of the readers of *Bye-gones* :—

A table of "Births and Burials" for twelve years in the Parish of "St. Mary Magdalene," which contains five hundred families, allowing nine to each family, amount to 2,600 inhabitants. In "St. Leonards," 550 families and 2,750 inhabitants; in the whole town, 5,350.

In the Parish of St.

Marys.

Births.	Burials.	DATE.
54.	119.*	1727.
72.	77.	1728.
52.	74.	1729.
65.	78.	1730.
75.	36.	1731.
64.	41.	1732.
70.	46.	1733.
69.	77.	1734.
46.	56.	1735.
60.	32.	1736.
67.	22.	1737.
61.	53.	1738.

755. 711.

In the Parish of St.

Leonards.

Births.	Burials.
68.	100.
72.	61.
54.	78.
84.	65.
70.	53.
47.	49.
79.	65.
64.	90.
72.	57.
79.	39.
71.	56.
62.	65.

822. 778.

In 1745 but 12 Burials in the Parish of St. Mary Magdalen's, which shows the healthfulness of the place.

The old copy book containing the account of Bridgnorth, from which this extract was made, was purchased by me at the sale of the Mytton collection of Manuscripts in London on the 2nd May, 1877. Bishop Percy's only son, to whom the copy book belonged, died April, 1783, at the early age of twenty. An excellent edition has recently been published of the *Percy Relics* in three vols., at 12s. per vol., under the editorship of Henry B. Wheatley, Esq.

HUBERT SMITH.

[* The large number of deaths in 1727 is explained by the words "sm'll pox" written after the figures 119.—ED.]

QUERIES.

BENNION'S WELL.—The well bearing this name is found near the tramway which passes under the Oswestry road near the village of Llanymynech. It is said to have been used as a place to deposit charms, by a person who is supposed to have dealt in such, and who resided somewhere in the neighbourhood of Oswestry. Can any reader of *Bye-gones* give an account of this personage?

LLERTWEF.

RICHARD LLOYD OF LLANERBROCHWELL. Mr. Hulbert on p. 72 of his *Hist. and Des. of the Co. of Salop*, 1837, refers to the "neglected tomb of his respected friend Richard Lloyd, Esq., of Llanerbrochwell Hall," in Guilsfield Churchyard, and says, "At the time of his death he was engaged in publishing (sic.) a new edition of Wynne's, or rather Caradoc's *History of Wales*, which was then nearly, if not entirely completed." Was the book ever issued? And what was Mr. Lloyd's special aptitude for the task?

TELL.

REPLIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Oct. 23, 1878). *Mrs. Barrett*. "C.R." says that Mrs. Barrett's property was inherited by a Col. Disbrow; and gives your readers a copy of the monument in Oswestry Church, erected after the death of "Letitia Barrett" in 1803 by "Edward Disbrow, Esq., of Walton-upon-Trent, in the county of Derby." Was this the same gentleman whose death is thus recorded in the *Gents: Mag:* of 1818?

Nov. 29. At Windsor, Col. Disbrow, vice-chamberlain to the late Queen. The Colonel was occupied nearly the whole of Thursday (Nov. 26) in visiting and relieving a number of poor families in Windsor, pensioners on her late Majesty. In the evening he complained of a slight indisposition, which continued the three succeeding days, but no serious apprehensions were entertained till about four hours before he expired. His remains were removed from Windsor Dec. 7, for interment at Walton upon Trent, co. Derby, the family estate.

What connection was there between the Barretts and Disbrowes?

JARCO.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Nov. 20, 1878).—We left this regiment making ready for foreign duty in 1793, after ten years' rest. Again to quote the *British Kymry* :—

The French Revolutionary War commenced February 1st, 1793. The 23rd was immediately ordered for service, and took part in the following engagements :—Alkmaar, Oct. 2, 1799—Aboukir Bay, Egypt, March 2nd, 1800—battle of Alexandria, March 21st—capitulation of Copenhagen, Sept. 7th, 1807—Walcheren expedition—capture of Martinique, Feb. 23, 1809—battle of Albuera, in Spain, May 16, 1811, the most sanguinary of the Peninsular battles, (the 23rd lost 14 officers killed and wounded, in the conquering charge so magnificently described by Napier)—Ciudad Rodrigo, Sept. 25th—storming of Badajoz, Jan. 19th, 1812, (19 officers killed and wounded)—victory of Salamanca, July 22nd; the losses of the regiment in these brilliant actions were such, that out of 1,000 men who had landed in Spain, 72 only were left. Dec., 1812—invalids, wounded, &c., rejoining it, raised its force to 300 veterans, the relics of seven pitched fields—victory of Vittoria, June 21st 1813—Pampeluna, July 28th—the 23rd charged in company with its sister-regiment, the 7th Fusiliers, and the 20th and 40th regiments four times with the bayonet, and was reduced to 108 men—passage of the Pyrenees, Aug. 2—capture of San Sebastian, Aug. 31—passage of the Nivelle, Nov. 11th—battle of Orthes, July 27th, 1814—battle of Toulouse, April 10th—action at Bayonne, April 14th—victory of Waterloo, June 18th, 1815 (in which the chivalrous Sir Henry Ellis, the colonel and leader of the regiment through seven years of unrelenting warfare, fell at the early age of 32)—formed part of the army in occupation of France, from A.D. 1815, to A.D. 1818; returned home, A.D. 1819—on home and garrison duty during the rest of the long peace, 1819–1854—presented with new colours at Winchester, by Prince Albert, who, in his speech on the occasion, stated, "he felt most proud to be the person to transmit these colors to so renowned a regiment"—the old colors were lodged in the Church of St. Peter's, Carmarthen—Russian war declared in 1854—the 23rd ordered on service, and sailed for Gallipoli, May 10th—and on the 17th of September, this royal Kymric regiment landed under the command of a Chief of Kymric blood, Lord Raglan, at Old Fort, on the shore of the Crimea, the eastern cradle of the Gomerick race, whence above 3,600 years before its forefathers had emigrated under Hu Gadarn and colonized Britain, (vide p. 15). On the 20th in company with the Grenadiers and Highlanders it stormed the heights of Alma, carrying the Russian batteries at the point of the bayonet. Colonel Chester, Captains Wynn, Evans, Conolly, Lieutenants Anstruther, Butler, Radcliffe, Young—all fell leading on their troops under a storm of balls which turned up every foot of ground "like a ploughed field." Captain Wynne was found with his face to the sky, a calm smile on his manly features, right under the muzzle of the Russian guns. "The fury and determination," states Marshal St. Arnaud, "with which the Welsh Fusiliers threw themselves on the enemy cannot be described—the incessant discharges of two batteries into their ranks did not in the least arrest their onward march." The Marshall asked if any officers survived, and requested to shake

hands with them.—On Nov. 25th, the 23rd was engaged at Inker-man; and on Sept. 10th, 1855, planted the immemorial banner of the Kymry—the Red Dragon, on the captured walls of Sebastopol.

Mr. Morgan's narrative is only brought down to 1855, and his book was published in 1857, and he closes his account of the regiment with the following information :—

The 23rd bears on its colors more names of celebrated battles than any other regiment in the service—viz, Minden—Sphinx—Egypt—Corunna—Martinique—Albuera—Badajoz—Salamanca—Vitoria—Pyrenees—Nivelle—Orthes—Toulouse—Peninsula—Waterloo—Alma—Inkerman—Sebastopol. On its banner it bears Prince of Wales's feathers—the Red Dragon and White Horse (union of Cambria and Saxondom)—the Rising Sun. Motto—"Nec aspera terrent."—No difficulties daunt.

Another week I will give a further account of the deeds of the Welsh Fusiliers, which, although it goes over the same ground, varies in details.

RIFLEMAN.

In 1850 an 8vo. volume of upwards of two hundred pages was published by Parker, Furnivall and Parker, of Charing Cross, London, bearing the following title, namely, "Historical Record of the Twenty-third Regiment of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, containing an account of the formation of the Regiment in 1689, and of its subsequent services to 1850: compiled by Richard Cannon, Esq., Adjutant-General's Office, Horseguards: Illustrated with Plates." This compilation, of the existence of which RIFLEMAN does not appear to have been aware, is one of a series of volumes embracing historical narratives of the services of the several regiments of the British army from their formation to 1850, or thereabouts, published by royal authority. That which is now really wanted is, not so much "a short, compact, and comprehensive account" of the Welsh Fusiliers, as a continuation of the narrative of the services rendered by the regiment from 1850 down to the present time, compiled from authentic documents. But that would be best undertaken to be supplied under official and competent authority.

LLALLAWG.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE LATE REV. EDWARD WARTER.—We have, with regret, to record the death of the Rev. Edward Warter, M.A., of Hanwood Rectory, near Shrewsbury. Mr. Warter took his degree at Cambridge in 1834, when his name appeared as fourth in the first classics and a senior optime. He was the contemporary of a band of brilliant students at the University, among whom he took a distinguished place. Among these were Kennedy, Ellice, Matu, Cotterill, Goulbourn, Blackburn, Donaldson, Lushington, and Shilleto. In Mr. Warter's year, Connop Thirlwall, Christopher Wordsworth—both distinguished bishops—and J. F. Isaacson, the well-known Isle of Wight clergyman, were the examiners in classics. Mr. Warter's admirable scholarship secured him a fellowship at his college—Magdalene—where he worked as fellow and tutor, eventually becoming president, for a number of years. The scholarship of his early life never left him, and in the latter year of his life he took as great a delight in Plato as ever. The "Republic" of the great Greek philosopher was one of the latest books he read. His mind was essentially an accurately trained one, and to this early and long-sustained culture may be ascribed the considerable power which he gained over all with whom he came in contact. The position which he gained at Magdalene was such as to give him the right to claim the best preferment at the disposal of the College. His landed property, however, in Shropshire, induced him to accept the small living of Aldrington in Sussex, which,

being almost a sinecure, did not require him to reside there. He was thus enabled to live at Hanwood where, by an arrangement with the Rector, he occupied for many years, as curate, the Rectory house. He was himself the patron of the living, but this fact did not alter his relation to the parish. Fond of out-door sport and occupations, Mr. Warter took up his residence in the double capacity of landowner and clergyman of the parish, without much regret for the university life which he left behind him. As an active magistrate he was greatly respected at Quarter Sessions. Mr. Warter was twice married, first to a sister of Colonel Harries, of Cruckton; secondly to a daughter of Professor Holmes, who survives him. One brother, the late Rev. John Wood Warter, vicar of West Tarring, Sussex, a well-known author, died a short time ago; another brother is Mr. H. De G. Warter, formerly a solicitor in London, and now resident at Longden Manor, in this county.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting, due in October, but unavoidably postponed, was held on Thursday, Nov. 28, at the Museum, Shrewsbury. The Council of the Society met at two o'clock to adopt the report and other preliminary business, after which the general meeting was held, at which the following, with other members, attended:—The Rev. W. Allport Leighton, Rev. Prebendary Lloyd, Rev. Canon Butler, Mr. Calcott, Mr. E. J. Parry, Dr. Cranage, Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Mr. Askew Roberts, Rev. J. Evans, Rev. A. T. Pelham, Rev. J. Mitchell, Rev. C. Mackay, Mr. Adnitt, Mr. Southam, Mr. Oldroyd, Mr. R. Taylor, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. D. Davies, Rev. E. Myers, Mr. Sharp, Mr. G. Drayton, Mr. Onions, Mr. Harding, Mr. P. Evans, Mr. J. G. Spence, Mr. Wilkes, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Robins, &c.

The Rev. CANON BUTLER was voted to the chair, and called upon the Secretary to read the report, which was as follows :—

The Council of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society, in presenting their report for the year ending June 24th, have much pleasure in congratulating the members on the success of the Society. It will be remembered that at the close of the year 1876, a Society was established, under the name of the Shropshire Archæological Society, for the purpose of gathering together and printing records of Shropshire, issuing to the members a volume annually of about 500 pages. Upon consideration, it appeared to many that the objects of the existing Natural History and Antiquarian Society were in many cases so nearly identical with those of the new Society, that an amalgamation was thought desirable. After the separate Councils had considered the matter, and each recommended to the members the desirability of such an amalgamation, general meetings were held, and the union of the two societies completed.

This has caused some complication in the accounts, and by the balance sheet it will be seen that several items of the Antiquarian Society include the expenditure of a year and a half, and the extra expense thus charged to the year's account amounts to about £40. Notwithstanding this charge, the Council are glad to find that the balance in hands of the Antiquarian Society at the last audit (Jan. 15, 1877) of £36 14s. has not been diminished, but increased to the sum of £43 13s. 4d. and with arrears (which are almost certain to be realised) amount to £51 0s. 4d.. In addition, the Council have about 60 copies of Vol. I. of the Society's Transactions, which will be available to new members at the subscription price.

The Council have much pleasure in issuing their volume of Transactions for the past year, and they beg to thank the writers of the various papers for their kindness in contributing the same; especially to Hubert Smith, Esq., for the two beautiful woodcuts illustrating his paper on the Bridgnoth Hermitage, and to Mr. Partridge, bookseller, Ludlow, for the loan of his steel-plate engraving of Ludlow Castle. The Council at the same time earnestly trust that the influence of present

members with others will be used, and that the full number of members (350) may shortly be obtained. This would give the Council considerable funds in hand, and enable them to improve the volume issued yearly, as well as supply other needs in the Museum which are much wanted.

The number of visitors to the Museum from January 1st to December 31st, 1877, was 993 (640 by payments and 353 by members' orders), and from January 1st to July 1st, 1878, 370 (243 by payments and 127 by members' orders).

The annual excursion for the year was to Bridgnorth, but in consequence of the very inclement state of the weather, it resulted in a loss to the society.

The Council have only to add that their thanks and those of the members are due to the Editorial Committee, and especially to the Rev. W. A. Leighton for his valuable assistance; to the Rev. Canon Butler for his kindness in thoroughly examining and arranging the botanical section of the Museum; and also to the Honorary Secretary for his untiring exertions in the welfare of the society.

Many contributions have been received at the Museum, for which the thanks of the Council are given, which will be duly recorded in the society's journal, and they take this opportunity of soliciting donations of objects of interest relating to the county, especially books, prints, drawings, coins, and specimens illustrating the archaeology, botany, zoology, and geology of the county.

The statement of accounts was also read, and the CHAIRMAN asked if anyone had any remark to make in respect to either.

The HON. SEC. (Mr. Adnitt) entered into sundry explanations relative to the accounts, which the CHAIRMAN remarked were very satisfactory. On the motion of Mr. E. J. PARRY, seconded by the Rev. J. EVANS, of Whixall, it was agreed that the report and statement of accounts should be printed in the forthcoming part of the Transactions of the Society.

On the motion of the Rev. A. T. PELHAM, the Council and other officers of the Society were re-elected, with the addition of the name of Mr. Butler on the Council in the place of Mr. Blakeway deceased. Canon BUTLER, in thanking them for electing him to office, remarked that he should be glad if the secretaries and other members of the different Field-clubs of the county would send to the Museum natural history specimens, which he would be very happy to arrange.

The Rev. C. H. DRINKWATER proposed, and Mr. CALCOTT seconded, special votes of thanks to the Rev. W. A. Leighton and Mr. Adnitt for their services to the Society, which was carried by acclamation; and the two gentlemen responded; Mr. LEIGHTON, in doing so, remarking that the Caradog Club had received the gift of the sum of £5 towards the expense of opening a tumulus at Clun-gunford, and intended supplementing that amount by a further sum from the funds of the club. He threw out a suggestion that their Society might, perhaps, spend some of its money in the same way. Mr. ADNITT, in thanking the meeting, observed that when they had their full complement of 350 members they would have £70 or £80 a year to spend for the improvement of the Museum or in the copying of MSS. for publication, and he hoped the day would soon come when their Museum would be removed to a more central place.

Mr. W. PHILLIPS proposed that a sum of £10 should be spent, at least for one year, for the purpose of commencing a collection of British birds for the Museum, and stated that the Council had that morning added to the number of their honorary curators the name of Mr. W. Beckwith, of Eaton Constantine, whose services would be very valuable in this department. He instanced the collection of birds at Ludlow as one of the finest in the country. Dr. CRANAGE, in seconding Mr. Phillips' motion, urged that they should only attempt a collection of birds belonging

to the county. Local museums, he thought, went out of their way when they made their collections general.

A conversation then arose as to the printing of a catalogue of the contents of the Museum, for sale to visitors, but it was thought that the collection would be greatly augmented now that the two societies were united, and it was agreed that a catalogue should be made, and given in the Societies' Transactions, and added to in succeeding numbers as contributions were received.

On the motion of the HON. SEC., seconded by the Rev. Prebendary LLOYD, it was agreed that the summer excursion of 1879 should include Berrington, Acton Burnell, Lawley, Pitchford, and Condover.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. ASKEW ROBERTS, and seconded by the Rev. W. A. LEIGHTON, closed the proceedings.

At the conclusion of the meeting conversation became general. The Rev. J. Evans exhibited an old document, signed by Queen Elizabeth, relative to the chapelry of Whixall, and the Rev. C. Mackay some lead tokens found in digging in Alveley Church, now in process of restoration. Several of the members present also took the opportunity of looking round the Museum, so rich in specimens from Wroxeter.

RISE AND PROGRESS OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTH WALES AND SALOP.

A writer in the *Freemason's Chronicle* for Nov. 9th, in the course of an interesting article recording a visit he has recently paid to one of the Shrewsbury Lodges, thus sketches the history of Masonry in our district:—

Readers of Preston's *Illustrations* will be aware that North Wales was the first Province which the Grand Master of England placed in charge of a Provincial Grand Master. The deputation was issued on 10th May, 1727, and the brother to whom it was granted was Bro. Hugh Warburton. But for some years after the organization of our present Grand Lodge, though Freemasonry established itself in the region round about, it does not seem to have obtained at all events a very firm foothold in this district. From the earlier published lists of Lodges we find that one meeting at the Fountain, Shrewsbury, and numbered 123 in Pine's list for 1740, was constituted 16th April, 1736. In a later list of Pine's there appears one numbered 194, meeting at the "Angel, Dolgelley, North Wales," and constituted 17th September, 1743, while in Cole's list for 1763 is one meeting at the "Fox Inn, Salop," presumably Shrewsbury, which was founded on 27th January, 1762. Of other "Modern" Lodges existing at the time of the Union and since extinct, but of considerably later date than the foregoing, must be mentioned the "Mercian Lodge," Ludlow, No. 485 before, and No. 528 after, the Union; Lodge of St. Winifred, Holywell, No. 545 before, and No. 670 after, the Union; and the Lodge of Industry, Bridgnorth, No. 578 before the Union, No. 597 after the Union, and No. 391 in 1832. Besides these, we know there was a Lodge holding under the Grand Lodge of the "Ancients," and this is still in existence, being the senior Lodge in the Province,—now No. 117, but No. 153 of the "Ancients" before the Union. No. 262—being No. 434 on the roll of the Grand Lodge "Moderns" prior to the same epoch—also still lives at Shrewsbury. But there are twenty-three other Lodges in this extensive Province, of which one only—No. 384 of Bangor, founded in 1827—received its Warrant of Constitution from our late G. Master, H.R.H. the Duke of Sussex. Twenty-four years elapse before we light upon an additional Lodge, namely 597, of Holyhead, warranted in 1851. Two were born the year following, namely, No. 601 of Wellington, and No. 606 of Carnarvon. No. 611 of Ludlow was constituted in 1853, No. 755 of Llandudno, in 1855, No. 998 of Welshpool, in 1864, No. 1113 of Llangefni, 1120 of Ironbridge, and 1124 of Oswestry, were constituted in 1866, and No. 1143, Denbigh, in 1867, and No. 1836 (Wrexham) 1870. All these were warranted during the Grand Mastership of the late Earl of Zetland. In 1871, Lodge No. 1369 was constituted at Bala; in 1873, Lodges Nos. 1432 (Oswestry), and 1477 (Mold); and, in 1874, Nos. 1488 (Amlwch), and 1509 (Portmadoc). These came into being when the Marquis of Ripon presided over our destinies, while since

the Prince of Wales has been elected Grand Master, there have been created six additional Lodges, namely: No. 1575 (Market Drayton), No. 1582 (Llanidloes), No. 1583 (Towyn), No. 1594 (Newtown), No. 1621 (Bridgnorth), and No. 1674 (Rhyll), the first three having been constituted in 1875, the next two in order in 1876, and the last in 1877. It should be added that of the twenty-five Lodges which constitute this important Province, no less than nineteen have been consecrated during the Prov. Grand Mastership of Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bart., M.P., who was appointed to his exalted office in the year 1852, by the late Earl of Zetland. So much for the antecedent Masonic History of the Province.

DECEMBER 11, 1878.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Dec. 4, 1878.)

3: Junij, 1582.

Md. That an order (subscribed by Banaster Esquier stuard of the towne of Oswestry: & nowe remayning in the box or case wherein the book of constitution of this towne signed by the right honorable the nowe Earle of Arundell is kept) was taken out: the words folowing verbatim / (viz). Apud [] (?) iijto die Maij, ao R Eliz: R: &c xxiiijto./

Where by spe'ial licence of the right honorable the Earle of Arundell (Lord & govern'r of the towne & Lordship of Oswestry) ijo burgesss were lately to be elected & sworne in the same towne/ and where by thereof Bartholomew Jenyns (being a man of honestie, lyvelode, [livelihood] & wealth) & one Richard Gittyns m'r'r (being also an honest man) & borne & brought up in the said towne where he served out his apprenticeship now ist'r [easter] day last chosen to be the said ijo burgess's/, furthermore as Mr. Steward of the said towne & Lordship is geven tounderstand by the nowe bailiffs of the said towne (being officers) sworne & men of credit) y't after such tyme as the said Bartholomew had not only to pay xx*s*/ for his said burgeship but also to pay such other & further some as the said now Bailiffes sh'd set so upon hym w'ch said further some was after taxed by the said Bailiffs to the som of viij*l*/ And after that the said Bartholomew was elected burgesse & called by the said Bailiffs to take his burgesse othe (& for yt purpose had had put his hand on sev'rall tymes upon a book) one W'm ap I'n of the said towne tann'r (being one of the burgesses of the said towne not longe tyme past elected & sworne) did at sev'rall times (in c'tempt of my Lords said ord'inge & the authority of the said Bailiffs) violently pull off the hand of the said Bartholomew from the said book and wold not suffer the said othe to be to hym mynstered by the said Bailiffs till som' other of the said Burgesses hilde hym, notw'tstanding the said Bailiffs Did by sev'rall speeches admonish & require hym (in my Lord's name) to give over his said willfull attempt whereupon som' stirr & tumult arose among som' of the said Baylyffs/, w'ch misdemean'r of the said W'm. ap I'n. Doth deserve to be punished in terror & example of others./ Therefore it is by the Stuard ordered y't the said Bailiffs (for the said offence) shall remitt the said Will'm to ward in the said towne there to remayn till my Lords pleash'r be specially known for his enlargm't/.

After w'ch order so taken & signed the said bailiffs, published & redd the same at an assembly of the burgesses in their comin halle & nevertheless in hope of the amendm't of the said W'm did forbear & spare the said c'mitten't to ward/ All this notw'tstanding where one of the bailiffs of the said towne now being w'th the consent of his fellow Bailiff: & of the most p'rte of the aldermen or Bailiffs officers (?) of the said towne & of the most p'rte

of the burgess of the same towne; becam suitor to the said Earle for his consent to the passing of a book of constitucions for the good gov'm't of the said towne & for orderly proceeding & indifferent trial to be had in acause depending or to be depending in the said towne (w'ch book afterward did passe under the hands & seale of the said Earle) The said W'm not only praied to be read a petition or libell to the said Earle requesting the stay of the said book of constitucions and seduced c'train of the burgesses of the towne to subscribe to the same (& so lewd unityng among the burgess of the said towne) But also caused a bastard sonn of his to exhibit the petition or libell, w'ch said petition or libell, was by the said Earles Counsell termed & adjudged to be a lewd libell: & the devisors thereof lewd p'rsons: /

Therefore for the sev'rall offences and misdemeanors aforesaid, the said W' by the bailiffe of the said towne at an assembly of Burgesss in their comm. hall the 3d day of June 1582 was disfranchysed of his fredome & burgeship in the said towne untill he may (upon his submission) recov'r his former fredom. In the meane tyme whereof they do order & adjudge if he shall (to all respects) be deemed, used, & taken in the said towne for a fornyer & disfranchysed person |

Th: Evance } bailiffes
} thereof.

WHITCHURCH RACES IN 1738.—In an old Chester newspaper—Adams's *Weekly Courant*, April 5 to 12, 1738—I lately saw the subjoined "Advertisement," and thinking it might fitly serve as a contribution to *Bye-gones*, I copied it. In the margin of the paper was written in an old hand, "These Races end in Year 1790."

GEORGINA F. JACKSON.

13, White Friars, Chester.

ADVERTISEMENT.—Whitechurch Races.

To be Run for upon Preese-Heath near White Church in Shropshire, the 23rd of May next, [being Tuesday in Whitson Week, a Purse of Ten Guineas by Gallows not exceeding 14 Hands high, to carry Nine Stone, all under to be allowed Weight for Inches, paying half a Guinea entrance.

On Wednesday the 24th, a Purse of Twenty Guineas by any Horse, Mare, or Gelding, carrying Ten Stone, if a Subscriber free, a Non-Subscriber Two Guineas entrance.

And on Thursday, the 25th, a Purse of Ten Guineas by any Horse, Mare, or Gelding, carrying Nine Stone, that never won the value of Two Guineas, the Winning Horse to be Sold at Ten Guineas if demanded, the second best Horse to have the first Refusal, a Subscriber to pay half a Guinea entrance, a Non-Subscriber One Guinea, no less than Three Horses to Start for any of the above Purse, in all other Respects be subject to Articles.

N.B. The Horses to be kept in the Township of Whitechurch or Dodington eight Days before the Day of Running, at such Houses as Subscribe half a Guinea to the Town Plates, and to Enter at John Clay's at the White-Lyon, that day sevenight before the Day of Running.

No Person to sell any Liquors upon the Common, but what Subscribe to the Town Plates.

There will be a Cocking every Morning at the Red-Lyon during the Races.

QUERIES.

MANTUA MAKERS.—Female attire changes so rapidly in this age that the garments our grandmothers wore are known only in name. What were "Mantuas?" I came across the word the other day in connection with an old advertisement of a Mr. Krebs, a peripatetic oculist, and it was in the form of a testimonial, commencing thus:—"I, Ann Lloyd, Mantua Maker, Willow Street, Oswestry, &c., &c." The date was 1815. **YOUNG OSWESTRY.**

THE DIVING BELL IN 1811.—We are told in the *Gents' Mag.* for Oct. 1811 that "R. M. Rogers, a Welsh seaman, having previously prepared a diving-bell, with 11 cwt. of metal fastened round its circumference," descended from the bowsprit of a sloop to ascertain the situation of a wreck of a lighter that had sunk near Cork. From the success that attended his investigation, he was of opinion that he could recover the whole of the cargo, nearly 30 tons. Was there something special in the Diving Bell Rogers "prepared," and was he known as an expert in these matters? G.G.

REPLIES.

CHESTER PACKET BOAT (Mar. 27, 1878).—At this date WREXHAMITE asks about a packet boat that commenced its career between Chester and the Mersey in 1795. In the "Cheshire and North Wales Royal Almanack" for 1809, printed by Fletcher of Chester, there is a table given showing the times of starting of "The Ellesmere Canal Packet for Liverpool," all through the year. It set out daily, with exceptions, from the Tower Wharf, Chester. On certain days in the summer months an asterisk points to the fact that on such days "a boat will go for the accommodation of bathers." And at the end of the table there is the following note:—"Travellers will meet with well-aired beds and every other accommodation, both at the Ellesmere Canal Tavern, and at the Tavern at Ellesmere Port on the Mersey." In another part of the almanack we are informed that the packet "goes along the Wirral canal, to Ellesmere Port, where it meets the packet for Liverpool." N.W.S.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Dec. 4, 1878).—I have already quoted a paper in *Chambers's Journal* for May 2, 1874, in connection with this subject. The writer further says:—

Few regiments have seen more rough service, or received harder knocks, than the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. When, in 1689, William and Mary found that the deposed James II. was making a stand in Ireland, it was resolved to raise twelve new regiments of foot; among the number was the corps which is the subject of this article, and which was raised mostly in Wales. Twenty years ago, the records of the regiment told that 'the spurs worn by Major Toby Pursell at the battle of the Boyne, are still preserved in the regiment, in the possession of the senior major for the time being.' Most likely the relic is still preserved. Shortly after the conquest of the Jacobites by the Orangemen in Ireland, the 23d embarked for Flanders, and were engaged at the siege of Namur. During the first half of the last century, when the continent was distracted and devastated by wars which we can scarcely disentangle now, the 23d often formed a part of the British contingents; as we find in the history of the struggles at Venloo, Liège, Blenheim, Ulm, Landau, Treves, Ramillies, Ostend, Dettingen, Fontenoy, &c. Later in the century, when the American colonies revolted from the mother-country, the 23d was among the regiments which were sent out to fight (what proved to us to be) inglorious battles. It was present at Lexington, Bunker's Hill, Boston, Long Island, New York, White Plains, Brandywine, Charlestown, and other scenes of conflict. In one of the years, 1773, the men volunteered to act as marines in some of the ships which Admiral Lord Howe brought to bear upon the French, who had sent out a fleet to aid the Americans. This was not easy work, seeing that soldiers are poor creatures at sea, unless they have been trained and drilled as marines. But the men of the 23d appear to have comported themselves bravely and efficiently. Lord Howe gave 'his most particular thanks to the officers and soldiers of the three companies of Royal Welsh Fusiliers, for their spirited and gallant behaviour on board the ships that had engaged the enemy, and to the whole regiment for its conduct during the time it served on board the fleet.' On the termination of the war, when Lord Cornwallis made his complete surrender to the enemy, a treaty was signed; the rank and file became prisoners of war, but the

officers were allowed to return to Europe on parole, retaining their private property. There was a little bit of smart practice on this occasion, which was much applauded by the 23d, but which sets us thinking as to what may be the rules of honour in regular war. Captain Peter and another officer saved the regimental colours by wrapping them round their bodies—presumably under their uniforms, and marched off with them under the guise of private property.

My next instalment will contain the part the regiment played in the French Revolutionary Wars.

RIFLEMAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Rev. D. Evans sent, to a recent meeting of the Archaeological Institute, a seal of "John Javziundus," found under the floor of Abergyle church.

Last week some workmen who were engaged in excavating the ground for a new sewer in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, came upon a rude grave made of flat pieces of stone, and containing human bones. The grave is about six feet below the surface, near the site of the old Abbey cloisters. On the following day other bones were unearthed.

The house on College Green, Shrewsbury, occupied by the late Mr. E. Hughes, was recently offered for sale by public auction. When Mr. Disraeli was a candidate for the representation of Shrewsbury, the house was occupied by the then mayor, Mr. Loxdale, before whom, in this house, Mr. Disraeli and Mr. (the late Sir William) Yardley, who had sent the former a challenge, were bound over to keep the peace.

The work of arranging and storing the charters and other ancient documents belonging to the city of Chester, has been completed by the committee appointed for that purpose, and the city is now the "possessor of a collection of well preserved charters and muniments unequalled by any corporation in the kingdom." It would be well if the corporations of those boroughs who still treat their ancient records with inexcusable neglect were induced by the example of Chester to take similar steps for their preservation.

MR. T. O. MORGAN OF ABERYSTWYTH.—All who knew him will learn with regret the death of Mr. T. O. Morgan, a gentleman whose name has long been associated with the Cambrian Archaeological Society and kindred institutions. Mr. Morgan was a barrister by profession, but we are not aware that he ever practised. He took a good deal of interest in the local affairs of Aberystwyth, of which borough he served, in due course, the office of Mayor. He was also a justice of the peace for the county of Cardigan, and deputy-lieutenant; and at one time took some interest in politics. When Sir T. D. Lloyd was returned for the Cardigan Boroughs, as a moderate Liberal, in opposition to Mr. David Davies, a more advanced Liberal, Mr. Morgan seconded his nomination. But it was as an antiquary that the deceased will be known to another generation. One of the most valuable local guides ever written was written by him; and although Aberystwyth of to-day is a different place from the one he depicted, there is much in the book that has made material for his successors in the same line. When the Powys-land Club was formed he was appointed joint secretary with Mr. Morris Jones, F.S.A., a sinecure office, by the way, with so able and indefatigable a partner in office. He also wrote a paper on Darowen parish for one of the volumes of the *Montgomeryshire Collections* issued by the Powys-land Club. Mr. Morgan died on Thursday, Dec. 5, at his residence at Goginan.

DECEMBER 18, 1878.

NOTES.

MR. PENNANT'S MARRIAGE.—Mr. Pennant, the distinguished Topographer, in his *History of Whiteford*, page 16, says :—"My mother was born Sep. 6, 1689, and married to my father Dec. 24, 1724. The courtship was carried on at Wynn-stay, and the nuptials performed at the neighbouring church of Rhiwabon. That good man Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, in a frolic, jumped on the box, and drove the bride and bridegroom to the church door." Is not this an anachronism? Although Sir John Wynn of Watt-stay died in 1719, and Mr. Watkin Williams took the estates and the name, he did not take the title, for the baronetcy died with Sir John. It was not until 1740, sixteen years after the marriage of Mr. Pennant, sen., that "the Honoured Mr. Watkin Williams Wynn" became a baronet. It was not the Wynn baronetcy that he took, but that which at his father's (Sir William Williams) death became his as the eldest son.

N.W.S.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION IN 1818.—*Aldermen*: J. Kynaston Powell, M.P. (Steward), Thomas Howell, Richard Salisbury, John Probert, Arthur Davies, John Jones, Sir Watkin W. Wynn, Bt. M.P., Richard Croxon, Lawton Parry, Richard Jebb, Thomas Skye, Rev. James Donne. *Common Council Men*: C. W. W. Wynn, M.P. (Recorder), Robert Cartwright, T. Longneville Jones, William Lloyd, Robert Roberts, Edward Edmunds, John Croxon, Rev. C. A. A. Lloyd, Hon. Thomas Kenyon, Thomas Morris, Rev. G. N. K. Lloyd, Samuel Leach, Thomas Netherton Parker, H. W. W. Wynn. The *Mayor* was the Rev. George Lloyd. In looking over the list of chief-magistrates in the age before the office was shorn of its dignity by the passing of the "Municipal Corporations Act of 1835," it has occurred to me that the ancient Town Seal might, if taken from its handle, form the pendant for an official chain modern mayors would be proud to wear; its links to be supplied by the representatives of the chief magistrates of those palmy days, and others who would gladly contribute; and to consist of the arms and initials of those who held the office. A chain containing the shield of the Wynns, the Kynastons, the Ormsbys, the Myttons, the Lloyds, the Owens, the Hills, the Trevors, the Kenyons, and such like—with the head of the ancient, and now unused, seal appended to it,—would possess an historic interest that would add to it a value that could not be appraised by pounds, shillings and pence.

FITZOSWALD.

QUERIES.

MISS H. OF OSWESTRY.—In the *Chester Chronicle* for Dec. 30, 1791, I read the following paragraph :—

Tho' antient virginity is confessedly an enemy to personal graces, the chaste old *Dian* is seldom unfriendly to the mental ones.—A venerable maiden lady (Miss H) now residing in Oswestry, enjoys in her 80th year, all the intellectual brightness of 25!—The fire of her imagination has lately darted forth in several smart pieces of poetry, particularly songs, catches, and glees—nor does the *jingling* faculty forsake her on her pillow, extending even to her *dreams*—as she seldom arises without an *original* rebus or enigma in the creative volume of her brain.

The paragraph is a trifle vulgar, no doubt, but not more so than paragraphs generally in that age. Who was "Miss H.?" And did any of her effusions find their way into print?

TELL.

A WELSH BARD IN TROUBLE.—John Davy, a Welshman, "which takyethe upon hym to be a prophesyer, solicited permission to speak with Hen. VIII., that he is able to show soche things as be nowe shortly comyng—very needful and necessary for Harry to know. That after he had openyd soche things to the King's Grace, as he hathe in his stomache to show, he would be content to be sent to any prison they liked to send him."—Ellis's *Letters*, iii. 101, signed by 'John Gresham.' This was not all: according to Stowe, p. 582, John was hung. "The 1st of July a Welshman, a minstrel, was hanged and quartered for singing of songs, which were interpreted 'to bee prophesieng' against the King."—Wilkins's *Wales Past and Present*. Can any of your readers give any particulars about this John Davy, whether he hailed from North or South Wales?

IDRIS, Junior.

SIR HENRY ASHURST.—A copy of the folio edition of Richard Baxter's works, published 1707 in four volumes, has from the time of publication been in the possession of the ministers of the Old Chapel, Oswestry; and on the title page we are told how it came to Oswestry in the following note :—

A Paragraph out of S. Henry Ashhurst Bart his Letter to me Jan. 20, 1707, "I do intend to give you Mr. Baxter's Four great Volumes, for your life, & your sons after you, if Dissenting minr. (or minrs.) but if not, I will give 'em to the Dissenting minr. of Oswestry in Time to come" Accordingly this sett was sent me

JEN EVANS.

Following this there is another entry thus :—

Oswestry, March 27, 1725. All ye undermentioned Mr. Evans's sons are now apprentices.

JOS. VENABLES.

The work has since been handed down from minister to minister, whose names are appended on the title page; a considerable break, however, as will be seen, occurring between the time of Mr. Venables and the next entry :—

Mr. Edward Williams came to Oswestry Sep. 13, 1777.

Dr. Edward Williams left Oswestry Dec. 25, 1791.

John Whitridge succeeded him Mar. 25, 1792. Died Oct. 11, 1826.

Thos. W. Jenkyn succeeded him Apr. 8, 1827, left Oswestry July 5, 1835.

William Reeve succeeded him Dec. 24, 1835, left Oswestry July 13, 1843.

John Davies succeeded him Dec. 2, 1843, preached his farewell sermon May 6, 1849.

James Matheson ordained Sep. 25, 1851, left Oswestry, June 27, 1855.

John Lockwood, B.A., May 7, 1859.

Thomas Gasquoine, B.A., Feb. 6, 1864.

Will someone inform your readers what interest Sir Henry Ashurst had in Oswestry, or in the Rev. Jenkin Evans?

JARCO.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY WELSH TESTAMENT, 1567 (Nov. 27, 1878).—Mr. Breese is entitled to thanks for giving us a list of known copies of this rare work; but there must be others in existence, for the late Earl of Powis told me more than thirty years since that he had one at Powis Castle. I am fortunate in possessing a very beautiful copy of it, in the following state :—Title page all but perfect; "Almanack dros xxv o vlynyddau" 13 pages and a blank leaf; the page respecting "This famous Amathist Stone," and a blank page; the Address to Prince Elizabeth 4 pages; the Address from Richard, Bishop of St. David's, 25 pages, followed by William Salesbury's address "At yr oll Cembru" 1 page; a page containing "D. Io Chrisost, Archiepiscop, (and) Cygor Sanct Ioan"; a page "Gosodiad Llyvra y Testament Newydd"; and then follows the Book beginning with page 1 (Cyseclan

Euangel Jesu Christ, ar ol Matthew), and ending with page 400 (not numbered), and then 3 pages, "Tabul y Gahel yr Epistolae a'r Euangelon," &c.; concluding, after the word FINIS, thus:—Imprinted at London by Henry Denham, at the costes and charges of Humprey Toy, dwelling in Paules Church Yarde, at the signe of the Helmet. Cum privilegio ad imprimendum Solum, Anno. 1567. Octob. 7." If Mr. Breesee could supply us with the particulars of the contents of the copies he has referred to, it might be possible to perfect some of them, a thing worth doing, seeing how exceedingly rare the book is. In proof of this I may say that I have been offered a hundred pounds for my copy on three different occasions.

William Morgan's Bible, 1588.—I have two copies of this magnificent version of the Holy Scriptures, one all but perfect, the other not quite so perfect, although in a fine condition. Mr. Hancock has, I believe, seen many copies of this edition, and if he has noted their state, he might possibly enable us to get at the means of perfecting some of the imperfect ones still in existence. E.G.S.

Glanaber, Chester.

I was much pleased to see the list of copies of Salesbury's Welsh Testament, by "E. B." Mr. Salisburi, of Chester, has a very nice copy with the following Englyn therein—in the 16th century handwriting:—

Byd fyddlon dynion yw dyw,—byd hyffordd,

Byd difaith neb wirddwy,

Byd hwylddawn yw bod haelddyw,

A byd heb ddim yw bod heb ddwy.

I have a fair long list of copies of Morgan's Welsh Bible, the larger portion of which I have myself seen. The list will be printed in my 'Memoir of Bishop Morgan,' now forthcoming. T.W.H.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Dec. 11, 1878).—We now come to the French Revolutionary Wars. The article in *Chambers* says:—

In the wars arising out of the French Revolution and the ambitious designs of Bonaparte, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers bore a very conspicuous part, having a full taste of the losses and hardships, battles and triumphs, of an eventful twenty years or so. First at the capture of Port-au-Prince in San Domingo; then in Holland; then with Sir Ralph Abercromby in Egypt; but especially throughout the whole duration of the Peninsular War. It is not without reason that the 23rd bears on its regimental colours the names Corunna, Albuera, Badajoz, Salamanca, Vitoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Orthès, and Toulouse. Waterloo, almost as a matter of course, was one scene of operations for the regiment; and the 23rd afterwards formed part of the army of occupation at Paris.

The account goes on to note the doings of the 23rd in the Crimea:—

A long period of peace gave this corps the usual routine of home, colonial, and India service, without any fighting; but when the Crimean War commenced in 1854, the 23rd was one of the regiments sent out. It formed part of Sir George Brown's brigade, in Sir William Codrington's light division. The records of the regiment do not fail to notice the achievement which gained for one of the officers the much coveted Victoria Cross. At the battle of the Alma, when the British troops had crossed the river and mounted the heights in face of a terrible fire of musketry and artillery, Lieutenant Armstrong, who carried the Queen's colour of the 23rd, was struck down; whereupon Major O'Connor seized it, advanced to the Russian position in spite of the volleys directed against him, planted it on a Russian redoubt, and defended it until the struggle was over and the victory won. For this heroic conduct the major was thanked on the field by Sir W. Codrington and Sir G. Brown, and was one of the earliest recipients of the Victoria Cross. Major Hackett is another Royal Welsh Fusilier who is similarly decorated. We need not go through the eventful details of the Crimean War; suffice it to say that the 23rd shared the dangers of Inkermann, the Quarries, Sebastopol, and the two attacks on the Redan. When the Indian revolt began in 1857, the Royal Welsh had their usual luck of being in the very thick of it.

More than this would be interesting to local readers; especially some record of the Ashantee War; and I hope some one will give your readers an account of the work this regiment did in the campaigns referred to. Another week I will give a little about the Goat, and then my "notes" on the subject will close. RIFLEMAN.

A FAIRY'S CAVE (Nov. 20, 1878).—I am inclined to think that the account, the writer of the article alluded to, had in his mind was one told of the Ogof Cave, upon the summit of Llanymynech Hill. If not identical it corresponds to it as nearly as possible. It is the remains of an old Roman copper level, and its labyrinths extend about two hundred yards in several directions. In bygone days it was looked upon by the inhabitants as a mysterious place, and always associated with fairies and such like. Its paths were said to lead to Fairyland. The entrance is large, solitary, and dismal in appearance, and would naturally inspire with terror, some of the superstitious. It was allowed to have been the abode of the fairy, who became the wife of King Alaric, whose palace is said to lie at the bottom of Llynclys Pool. As a proof that persons were afraid to explore the maze, until the middle of the last century, several human skeletons were then discovered entire, with articles of the chase, battlefield, and the household, in addition to a number of coins. Even in the present day I have not known any old inhabitant, who in his youthful days has ventured far into the passages. It is now frequently explored. Adjacent to its entrance is a hollow known as the "Devil's Foot-step," so that in past times it was probably traditionally connected with his infernal majesty. As regards the hunting in its vicinity, it can easily be imagined that a fox might seek a retreat in its depth, and that the hounds would recoil from following it. The account given may have been an exaggeration of this. The minstrel, too, is not forgotten in legendary lore. It should have been mentioned that the main passage is said to extend beneath the village, passing near the Cross Keys Hotel cellar. An old blind fiddler is said to have penetrated thus far, and was heard from the cellar, performing upon the violin. The "ponderous and marble jaws" corresponds to the entrance which is made in the compact limestone, and much resembles marble. LLEKTWEF.

DECEMBER 25, 1878.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY QUARTER SESSIONS.—Under the provisions of the Charter of Charles II., by which Oswestry was governed up to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, there were four Borough Magistrates, viz: The Mayor, the Coroner, the Steward and the Recorder. The first two were elected year by year, and any two were competent to preside at Quarter Sessions providing the Mayor was one. I have heard a doubt expressed as to any sessions ever being held without either the Recorder or the Steward being present, so I now give an instance; but must first lead up to it by a note of explanation. On the 26th Sep., 1820, the Town Clerk's Office, Oswestry, was broken open, and a watch and other property, to the value of £9 10s. 0d., stolen from a desk, belonging to Mr. Henry Hughes, Town Clerk's Clerk. Attached to the record of this robbery is the following:—

Oct. 19, 1821. At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace held in and for the town and borough of Oswestry, in the county of Shrop, before John Jones, Esq., Deputy-Mayor, and Richard Salisbury, Esq., Coroner, two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said town and borough the above amount was pro-

duced in Court and allowed, and that a gold watch and appendages which was left about two years ago by a person suspected of felony from Stratford-upon-Avon, and which has been regularly advertised in the *Hue-and-Cry* and local newspapers, and has not been owned;—That the same gold watch and appendages be given to the said Henry Hughes towards his loss in the above-mentioned robbery, subject to be delivered to the right owner if identified and claimed.

This is rather a novel illustration of a sessions without a Recorder, for there was, really, not one of the four magistrates named in the Charter present! During the years 1819-20, H. W. W. Wynn, Esq., was Mayor, and Mr. Salisbury was his deputy, therefore Mr. S. would be deputy-coroner in 1820-1. And in 1821-2, W. Lovett, Esq., was Mayor, and Mr. John Jones [J. V. Jones, Cathrall says] was his deputy. Mr. Henry Hughes was appointed permanent coroner in 1842, under the provisions of the Act of Parliament of 1835, which superseded the Charter. How many Oswestrians are there left? wonder, who remember "Mr. Harry Hughes, gent.," as he was called.

JARCO.

SIR PHILIP SIDNEY,

Many an anxious parent has doubtless sent letters full of good counsel to his son at Shrewsbury School, but I question whether a finer one than the following was ever received at that celebrated seat of learning:—

"Sir HENRY SIDNEY, K.G., Lord Deputy of Ireland, and Lord President of Wales. A very godly letter made unto PHILIP SIDNEY his son, then at school in Shrewsbury.*"

Son Philip. I have received two letters from you—one written in Latin, the other in French—which I take in good part; and will you to exercise that practice of learning often: for that will stand you in most stead in that profession of life that you are born to live in.

And now sithence this is my first letter that ever I did write to you, I will not that it be all empty of some advices; which my natural care of you provoketh me to wish you to follow, as documents to you in this your tender age.

Let your first action be the lifting up of your mind to Almighty God by hearty prayer; and feelingly digest the words you speak in prayer, with continual meditation and thinking of Him to whom you pray and use this as an ordinary act, and at an ordinary hour. Whereby the time itself will put you in remembrance to do that which you are accustomed to do in that time.

Apply your study such hours as your discreet Master doth assign you, earnestly: and the time, I know, he will so limit; as shall be both sufficient for your learning, and safe for your health. And mark the sense and matter of that you do read as well as the words: so shall you both enrich your tongue with words and your wit with matter; and judgment will grow as years grow in you.

Be humble and obedient to your Master: for unless you frame yourself to obey others, yea, and feel in yourself what obedience is; you shall never be able to teach others how to obey you. Be courteous of gesture and affable unto all men; with diversity of reverence according to the dignity of the person. There is nothing that winneth so much, with so little cost.

Use moderate diet: so as, after your meal, you may find your wit fresher, and not duller; and your body more lively, and not more heavy. Seldom drink wine: and yet sometimes do; lest

* In the records of Shrewsbury School are the following entries on the same day:—"Anno Domini, 1564 16 Cal. Nov. [i.e., 17 Oct.] Philippus Sidney filius et hæres Henrici Sidney Militis de Pensarst in Comit. Cantie, et Domini Presidis confinium Cambrie, nec non Ordinis Garterii Militis." "Foulkes Greyvell filius et hæres Foulki Greyvell Armigeri de Beauchamp Courts in Comit. Warwic. Codem die."

† Probably, had Sir Henry lived in our day, when, happily to drink wine is not considered an accomplishment necessary for gentlemen, he would have counselled his "little Philip" to abstain altogether.

being enforced to drink upon the sudden, you should find yourself inflamed.

Use exercise of body, but such as is without peril of your bones or joints. It will increase your force, and enlarge your breath. Delight to be cleanly as well in all parts of your body, as in your garments. It shall make you grateful in each company: and otherwise loathsome.

Give yourself to be merry: for you degenerate from your father, if you find not yourself most able in wit and body to do anything, when you be most merry. But let your mirth be ever void of all scurrility and biting words to any man: for a wound given by a word is oftentimes harder to be cured than that which is given with the sword.

Be you rather a hearer and bearer away of other men's talk, than a beginner and procurer of speech: otherwise you shall be accounted to delight to hear yourself speak.

Be modest in each assembly, and rather be rebuked of light fellows for maiden-like shamefastness; than of your sad [sober] friends, for pert boldness. Think upon every word that you will speak, before you utter it; and remember how Nature hath ramped [walled] up, as it were, the tongue with teeth, lips, yea, and hair without the lips; and all, betokening reins or bridles for the loose use of that member.

Above all things, tell no untruth. No, not in trifles. The custom of it is nought; and let it not satisfy you that, for a time, the hearers take it for a truth: yet after it will be known as it is, to your shame. For there cannot be a greater reproach to a Gentleman, than to be accounted a liar.

Study and endeavour yourself to be virtuously occupied: so shall you make such an habit of well doing in you; as you shall not know how to do evil, though you would.

Remember, my son! the noble blood you are descended of by your mother's side: and think that only by virtuous life and good action you may be an ornament to that illustrious family; otherwise, through vice and sloth, you may be counted *labes generis*, "a spot of your kin," one of the greatest curses that can happen to man.

Well! my little Philip! this is enough for me; and too much, I fear, for you. But if I shall find that this light meat of digestion nourish in anything, the weak stomach of your young capacity; I will, as I find the same grow stronger, feed it with other food.

Commend me most heartily unto Master Justice Corbet, old Master Onslow, and my cousin his son. Farewell! Your mother and I send you our blessings: and Almighty God grant you His! nourish you with His fear! govern you with His grace! and make you a good servant to your Prince and country!

Your loving father, so long as you live in the fear of God,
H. SIDNEY.

To this letter the mother adds some words of loving advice and exhortation, which are inscribed "A Postscript by my Lady Mary Sidney, in the skirts of my Lord President's letter, to her said son Philip." They are as follows:—

Your noble and careful father hath taken pains with his own hand to give you in this his letter, so wise, so learned, and most requisite precepts for you to follow with a diligent and humble thankful mind; as I will not withdraw your eyes from beholding and reverent honouring the same: no, not so long time as to read any letter from me. And therefore, at this time, I will write unto you no other letter than this: whereby I first bless you, with my desire to God to plant in you His grace; and secondarily, warn you to have always before the eyes of your mind these excellent counsels of my lord, your dear father, and that you fail [not continually] once in four or five days to read them over.

And for a final leave-taking for this time, see that you show yourself as a loving obedient scholar to your good Master! to govern you yet many years; and that my lord and I may hear that you profit so in your learning, as thereby you may increase our loving care of you, and deserve at his hands the continuance of his great joy, to have him often witness with his own hand the hope he hath in your well doing.

Farewell, my little Philip! and once again the Lord bless you!

Your loving mother,
MARY SIDNEY.

When we read that in after life the "purity and nobility of his nature, and the winning courtesies in which its gentle magnanimity expressed itself, took captive all hearts," we are prepared to know that Sir Philip

Sidney was blessed with a Christian gentleman for his father, and a noble woman for his mother. The letters I transcribe are taken from *Arbor's English Garner*, recently published.

J.F.R.

QUERIES.

STRIKING THE DAY OF THE MONTH.—

This practice, according to the *Gents' Mag*: for Sep. 1816, was in vogue in Pembroke at that period, the hours at which they were rung out being 5 in the morning and 8 in the evening. Is this still the case anywhere in that county? It has already been stated in *Bye-gones* that the custom still prevails elsewhere.

ROATH.

AN EXPLOSION AT WELSHPOOL.—Do any of your Welshpool readers remember the following circumstance occurring? "On the morning of the 23rd of December, 1813, about 4 o'clock, the warehouse of Mr. Griffiths, grocer, the corner shop in Welch Pool, was discovered on fire, and five barrels of gunpowder blew up with a dreadful explosion, and the roof and floors, with the contents of the warehouse, were blasted in every direction through the air to an incredible distance. The fire injured an adjoining dwelling. The windows of many neighbouring houses were much shattered. The landlady of the Britannia Inn has since died of the fright."

NEMO.

REPLIES.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Dec. 18, 1878).—

According to promise I herewith transcribe what the writer in *Chambers's Journal*, May 2, 1874, says about the Goat of the regiment:—

Whenever the 23rd are engaged on any expedition, the goat is mentioned pretty much as if he were one of the regimental officers—greatly to the puzzlement of civilians. All that is known of the origin of this matter is comprised in a paragraph of Grose's *Military Antiquities*: "The royal regiment of Welsh Fusiliers has a privileged honour of passing in review preceded by a goat with gilded horns, and adorned with ringlets of flowers. Although this may not come immediately under the denomination of a reward for merit, yet the corps values itself much on the ancient uses of the custom. Every 1st of March, being the anniversary of their tutelary saint, David, the officers give a splendid entertainment to all their Welsh brothers. After the cloth is removed, a bumper is filled round to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (whose health is always drunk first on that day), the band playing the old tune of *The Noble Race of Shenkin*; when a handsome drummer-boy, elegantly dressed, mounted on the goat (richly caparisoned for the occasion), is led thrice round the table in procession by the drum-major." Whether the 'handsome drummer-boy, elegantly dressed,' still takes part in the affair, we do not know; but Cannon's History of the regiment tells an amusing anecdote of one of their anniversaries: "It happened in 1775, at Boston, that the animal gave such a spring from the floor that he dropped his rider upon the table; then, bounding over the heads of some officers, he ran to the barracks with all his trappings, to the no small joy of the garrison." The goat of the 23rd, like the sovereign, never dies; at least, when he really dies, no time is lost in proclaiming a successor. On the decease of the goat in 1844, the Queen presented to the regiment two fine specimens, selected from the flock at Windsor Forest, which had been presented to her by the (then) Shah of Persia. The regiment usually comprising two battalions, one goat was presented to each. In a coloured engraving, representing the uniforms of the regiment in 1850, the goat is brought in, a fine animal with an ample white shaggy coat, and an heraldic or regimental badge fixed to his forehead between the roots of the horns. The late goat was not among the heroes who entered Coomassie. He accompanied the regiment from England to Cape Coast Castle; but there the poor fellow, like many of his bipedal companions, sickened and died. His horns have been, or are now being, made into an ornament for the mess-table of the officers of the 23rd, while his skin is being carefully dressed into

parchment for a new drum-head. The presentation of another goat by the Queen, at a recent review in Windsor Park, is fresh in the memory of all readers; while spectators will remember that the new-comer gave some trouble to the drum-major, to drill him into regimental etiquette.

The presentation referred to in the closing paragraph formed the subject of a paragraph in *Bye-gones* at the time.

RIFLEMAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The hard weather continues, and on Monday morning there was a fall of snow. On Saturday Mrs. Mainwaring, of Oteley, drove a pony and trap, and also a sledge, over the mere at Ellesmere. The Severn and Dee have been frozen hard enough to bear, the first time for many years.

We record to-day the death of three well-known residents of three neighbouring counties. Col. TOTTENHAM, of Plas Berwyn, Llangollen, Deputy Chairman of Merionethshire Quarter Sessions, died suddenly at his club in Dublin on Tuesday, Dec. 17, in the 71st year of his age; the Rev. HENRY THURSBY PELHAM died at Cound Hall, Salop, on Thursday, Dec. 19, at the age of 77; and Mr. JOHN DAVIES CORRIE, a magistrate for Montgomeryshire, of which county he was High Sheriff in 1850, died at his residence, Dysserth, near Welshpool, on Friday, Dec. 20, in his 82nd year.

THE LATE SIR WILLIAM YARDLEY.—We have to record the death of Sir William Yardley, Knight, formerly of Shrewsbury, at Hadlow Park, near Tunbridge Wells. The deceased gentleman was the son of the late Mr. Edward Yardley, of Shrewsbury, by Catherine, third daughter of the late Mr. James Bowen, of Whitechurch, Pembrokeshire, and was born in Shrewsbury in 1810, and educated at Shrewsbury School. On the 10th November, 1832, he was admitted a student of the Middle Temple, and was called to the Bar in the Trinity term of 1837. After practising on the North Wales and Chester Circuit for some years, he was appointed a puisne judge at Bombay, and received the honour of knighthood on being sworn in. He held that office from 1847 to 1852, when he was elected Chief Justice of Bombay, which appointment he held until 1858, when on his resignation, after ten years' service, he received a retiring pension, and returned to England. In 1860 he was appointed Deputy-Lieutenant for Pembrokeshire, a county magistrate for Bucks in the same year, and a county magistrate for Kent in 1863. In 1847 Sir William Yardley married Amelia, third daughter of Mr. John Wilkins, of Spring Gardens, London, and he leaves several children. He unsuccessfully contested Ludlow in the Liberal interest in 1865, against the Hon. G. C. Clive and Captain Severne, and again in 1868 he was defeated by the Hon. Windsor Clive and the late Sir Percy Herbert. In 1841, when Mr. Disraeli contested Shrewsbury, Sir William, then Mr. Yardley, was his strong opponent, and in consequence of some observations said to have been made by Mr. Disraeli, he sent that gentleman a challenge, and chose as his friend the late Mr. William Clement, to arrange with his opponent the terms, time, and place of meeting. Some friends, however, getting wind of the affair, appealed to the Mayor to interfere, and the affair ended, but at the time created no little stir in the borough. Sir William Yardley was a brother of the late Mr. Edward Yardley, who was appointed a police magistrate for one of the metropolitan districts. The funeral took place on Thursday.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Nov. 27, 1878.)

CLULOW, THOMAS, was born at Macclesfield, Cheshire, in the year 1833. He was blessed with pious parents, whose counsels and prayers resulted in his early conversion to Wesleyan Methodism. His gifts, graces, and labours in the circuit gave early indication of his call to the ministry, as a candidate for which office he was received at the Wesleyan Conference of 1856. "The beauty of holiness" was eminently set forth in his pure, gentle, becoming life. As a preacher he was acceptable and useful. "Affable manners, diligence in his pastoral duties, his care for the sick and poor, and his tender concern for the young, greatly endeared him to the people among whom he moved. At the Conference of 1868 he was appointed to labour in the Southwark circuit, and he entered cheerfully upon his work; but with the last Sabbath of the year his public labours ceased, and he peacefully passed away January 22, 1869, in the thirty-sixth year of his age and the thirteenth of his ministry." That grateful tribute to a good man's worth cannot be improved upon by any words of ours.

COBB, SAMUEL, who died in 1837, was for many years third master of the Grammar School at Newport, Salop. He had served in some capacity at that school for the long period of fifty years, and a fine tribute to his worth was paid by the Rev. William Sandford, minister of Newport, in a funeral sermon for him, published 1837, where he is spoken of in terms of high approbation. It is stated elsewhere that "he was born in Shropshire, spent most of his life there, was a capital scholar, and a truly pious man." What more need be said to commend his name to respect?

COLES, ROGER, a native of Shropshire, comes down to us with a foul, though doubtful, dishonour attached to his otherwise very honoured name. In the year 1419 Henry V. was busily engaged in France in one of his numerous campaigns. The Queen dowager was accused by a Friar, Randolph, with having compassed the King's death in a horrible manner. Roger Coles, at that time living at Shrewsbury, had been intimate with the Queen, and it is supposed privy to all her wicked designs, but this is by no means clear, although Parliament in that year somewhat hastily passed a law enacting that "all lands and castles and possessions, as well of the Queen as of her accomplices, should be seized for the King's use," and thus divested Mr. Coles of all he had in the world. If this gentleman had been proved guilty of so dark a treason, this was a very inadequate punishment for his offence, but seeing that the same enactment provided for the maintenance of the Queen and her servants, it is fair to conclude that this distinguished Salopian was not guilty of the crime imputed to him, but that he had fallen a prey to priestly intrigue, chiefly because it was supposed he favoured the Lollards. What became of him afterwards is not known, but a gentleman of his name ten years subsequently died at Shrewsbury, aged sixty-one.

COLLEY, WILLIAM, a native of Cheshire, and born it is believed in the neighbourhood of Malpas, claimed descent from one Thomas Colley, whose son, of the same name, is said to have lived in the neighbourhood of Malpas in the early days of the Reformation. Our worthy was born in the latter days of the sixteenth century, for he married in 1606 one Anne Frodsham, and was subsequently employed as agent or steward to Mr. Grosvenor, of Eaton, near Chester. Following the policy of his em-

ployer, he was a staunch Royalist in the Civil War times, and when in 1643 party feeling ran very high, and life, liberty, and property were alike endangered, he, through the interest of the Grosvenors, probably, secured the grace and favour of Arthur, Lord Capell, and obtained an order from him to his subordinates, "not to doe, nor willingly permit or suffer to bee done, any hurt, violence, damage, plunder, or detriment whatsoever, unto the person, house, family, goods, chattells, or estate" in which he was interested. How far this order served him does not appear, but his descendants continued to live at Churton, and two of them were noticeable men, although there is not much that can be said of them, viz.:—Mr. Jonathan Colley, rector of Pulford, and Mr. William Colley, Incumbent of Churton Heath; the latter was supposed to favour the Puritans, but when the Act of Uniformity was passed, he certainly conformed, and continued to be "a good Churchman" for the rest of his days.

COMBERBACH, BENJAMIN, born at Bunbury, in Cheshire, 1770, is mentioned in Mr. Marshall's account of the family of Comberbach as the youngest son of John Comberbach, of Haughton. He practised for some time at Worcester as a solicitor, but was admitted a student of the Inner Temple in 1793. The statement is not very satisfactory when so put, but either as counsel or solicitor he proceeded to India, and was engaged there upon a celebrated case wherein Rajah Moory Loll prosecuted four natives for a conspiracy to compel him to sign the release of a suit respecting some landed property in which he was interested. The accused being found guilty of this offence through "the perseverance and skill" of Mr. Comberbach, the rajah were told remunerated this lucky Cestrian with a present of *ten thousand pounds!* This fortunate man died at Calcutta, and left an only child, a daughter, who married into a Shropshire family. From another source we find that Mr. Comberbach was esteemed to have been "a most excellent lawyer," and we may fairly conclude therefore that he deserved to succeed in his profession.

COMBERBACH, RICHARD, born at Latchford, in Cheshire, in the year 1644, was the son of Ralph Comberbach, of Lymm, in the same county. He was educated at Caius College, Cambridge, where, in 1668, he graduated B.A. He appears to have served as perpetual curate at Little Leaver, near Knutsford, and at his death he left a sum of money in trust for the endowment of Lower Peover School, and an additional sum to provide bread for the poor of that district, and also of Nether Alderley. Mr. Comberbach was a non-juror, but so good and charitable a man as he certainly was may be allowed to enjoy his crochets in peace. He had many of them in possession, but they were harmless enough in themselves, and did no one any injury. In his will he directs his body to be put into a poplar coffin, to colour it black, to be buried in his wife's gown, but this was to be done by candlelight! He died in 1722.

ERRATA.

Page 58, read, "A few of the visitors mounted the staircase to view the (recast) Great Bell of Tong."

Page 128. For "Hilditch" read "Hitchcock," in the note at foot of page about Gas Explosion in Shrewsbury.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

*** Replies to unanswered Queries of 1878 are solicited; and additional Notes and Queries for the issue of 1879.

BYE-GONES FOR 1879.

NOTES, QUERIES, and REPLIES, on subjects interesting to Wales and the Borders, must be addressed to "ASKEW ROBERTS, Croeswylan, Oswestry." Real names and addresses must be given, in confidence, and MSS. must be written legibly, on one side of the paper only.

JANUARY 1, 1879.

NOTES.

DEATH WARNINGS IN SHROPSHIRE.—"I think my aunt will die," said a Whittington boy to me the other day. "Why?" I asked. "Because the clock ran itself down last night," was the reply. The aunt was ill, but not so bad as to warrant the belief of the nephew apart from the warning. On my "pooh-poohing" his fears, he said, "Oh, but the sexton and his wife died at Whittington after the church clock had run itself down."

BONWM.

DISTRESS IN 1816.—At the end of 1816 distress was greatly felt amongst the poor in every direction, and we are told that in the neighbourhood of Wynnstay Sir Watkin Williams Wynn took into his employ all who were out of work, and set them to agricultural labour, and the repair of roads, &c. This was a carrying out of the course he had recommended to the landowners at his Cattle Show. Six weeks later the Marquis of Stafford offered the Shrewsbury relief committee a hundred tons of coal for the poor on condition that the Canal Company would carry it free; and one or two other colliery proprietors made similar offers. N.W.S.

EARLY CHARTERS OF OSWESTRY (Aug. 21, 1878).—In the MS. *History of Oswestry*, written by Mr. Davies who was Recorder in 1635, he gives the copy of the "Sharta Gutta" and states that it was "the antientest ch're" then extant. Mr. Davies thus describes the document:—"This ch're beareth noe date & is called Sharter Gutta, id est Charta brevis, p'te of the labell is to it but the seale taken from it. Sr. Willia' Neve [Clarencieux] hath a coppie of this ch're. I have transcribed it as I read & understood it; haply I may be some where mistaken as unacquainted w'th that ould hand & character." The following is the text of the charter:—

Sharta gutta or Charta brevis—Willi'm d'm Ffitzalan.

"Sciant tam pr'sentes qua' futuri q'd ego Willim's filius Willimi filij Alain recepi in manu et p'te'cone mea Burgenses meos de Blanc' moeter nominatim illos qui in ball'io meo messuagia receperunt ad emendac'one merchuti mei, et ego eos contra omnes manutenebo quatenus de iure potero; Quare id'm volo et firmiter pr'cipio quatenus prefati burgenses teneant messuagia sua licit et in pace et honorifico libere et quiete in bosco in plano et in alibi

XXXX

locis. Concessi etia eiusdem Burgensibus q'd pr'dic burgagia teneant de me sc'du' leges et consuetudines et libertates quas, Burgenses Salop in burgo suo habent. Cartam ratam in postern' esse volui. Sigilli mei appositione et istora' testiu' subscripc'one confirmavi, Joh'n extranea ha'm fri's sui, helie de fess, Philippi fil Willini Reg. de, he, Will. de verdun, Reg. eli dom. de Hesse et multis aliis."

He also gives the following, of which he says "Sr. Willia' Neve, Kt., Clarenceux, hath the coppie of this Ch're att large, &c."

Willia' Earle of Arundell his Ch're to the Mercers, grocers, drap's and Ironmongers of Oswestrie.

"Willi'mus Comes Arundell et d'ns de Mautravers omnibus fidelibus et ministris suis Salutem. Sciatis q'd nos de gre n'ra speciali concessim' pro nobis et heres n'ris quantu' in nobis est o'ibus ho'ibus misteriaru' de drap's, m'rcers-craft, Ironmongers-craft & Spice-mongers craft, In villa n'ra de Oswaldestre in m'rchia wallie com'orantib' &c. Quod ip'i &c. unu' corpus re et no'ie &c. Ad Sc'acriu' ville n'ræ pr'dic. Respondeant &c. Dat sub magno Sigillo armoru' n'roru' in hospitio n'ro London 15^o Novembris An' RRs Henr. 6^{ti} Decim' nono."

Portions of *Davies's MS.*, transcribed from the original in the British Museum, I herewith send you. The above are the only charters I have copied. Perhaps the publication of them in *Bye-gones* will not be uninteresting—a translation will be given again. The MS. contains several of the charters, but these Salopian readers will be able to peruse in due time, when Mr. Stanley Leighton's promised paper appears in the *Transactions* of the Shropshire Archaeological Society. T. W. HANCOCK.

5, Furnival's Inn.

QUERIES.

SAINT WINIFRED.—In an odd volume of the *Gents : Mag :* I picked up the other day, containing the first half of 1809, I find the following passage in a letter signed "A Minor Critic":—

Without the least wish of reviving a controversy, of which your readers have perhaps had already *plus quam satis*; allow me to state an historical fact: "In May 1719, the Government having notice the Roman Catholics were about to celebrate the Feast of St. Winifred, at Holywell in Wales, with great solemnity, sent down a party of Dragoons thither; who seized their Priest as he was officiating, with his images, plate, and other utensils; and found a parcel of writings, which discovered several estates settled to superstitious uses." (*Salmon.*)

Will some contributor to *Bye-gones*, who possesses a set of the *Gents : Mag :* give us an outline of the controversy referred to? Perhaps someone, too, may be able to refer to *Salmon's Survey* (if that is the work quoted) or elsewhere, for further particulars respecting the Government raid at Holywell?

G.G.
24

THE WORKHOUSE TEST.—In the present enlightened age when Guardians are beginning to be impressed with the fact that they are not appointed solely for the purpose of manufacturing paupers, the following minute from the books of the Oswestry House of Industry, over half a century ago, will not be uninteresting:—

Aug. 20, 1821. Ordered that from and after the 24th day of September next all the permanent out-poor of the respective parishes belonging to this Corporation shall be reduced to sixpence per week only for each individual, and that no greater sum shall be allowed unless in cases of illness, and that all such paupers who cannot subsist on that weekly sum, are to come to and be maintained in the House.

The Directors signing this were Henry Parry [Esq., Oswestry], John Jones, Brook-street, Oswestry, John Povey, Derwenypandy, Christopher Temple, Oswestry, John Dicken, Newhall, Chirk. What a model union ours would have become had the 'order' only been kept in force! But was the order ever enforced? A27

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT, 1567. (Dec. 18, 1878).—I have a copy of the "Salesbury Welsh Testament." It is imperfect, but has evidently been highly valued by a former owner—the deficient leaves are supplied in blank. It has been rebound in old style, with vellum corners. I notice that the leaves and not the pages are numbered. Is this peculiar to the Salesbury Testament? EDWD. ROWLAND.

Bryn Offa, Wrexham.

THE WELSH FUSILIERS (Dec., 25, 1878).—In the magazines and papers for 1807, the death was announced of Edward Evans, Esq., late captain of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He is described as a man of much modesty and great bravery. He encountered with undaunted fortitude all the dangers and hardships of the long campaigns during the seven years' war in Germany; and was engaged in the battles of Minden, Munster, and St. Cas. He was five years in constant service, except the time when he was confined by a wound which he received through his shoulder, at Cloister-Kempen, in 1760, which obliged him to return to England. His services, however, were not rewarded by promotion, and he was ordered to join his regiment immediately upon recovery. After peace was concluded he married a daughter of Dr. Gloster Ridley, prebendary of Salisbury. He was again called to his military duties, and was for five years absent from home in America during the war with that country and England. After performing many brave actions he retired from the service, unrewarded; and settled at Hingham, Norfolk, where he died in his 75th year. The notice I quote does not say whether Mr. Evans was a Welshman or not. The name would imply a Welsh parentage, but in the regiment, I am told, there are, really, not more natives of the Principality than in other regiments. Perhaps some better-informed correspondent will say if this is so. ANON.

A FAIRY'S CAVE (Dec. 18, 1878).—Your correspondent does not go far back enough for the origin of the legend of Llynclys Pool. Alaric was a fancy of the very fanciful brain of the late Mr. J. F. M. Dovaston, a portion of whose ballad on the subject will be found in the *Gossiping Guide to Wales*. In Davies's MS. account of the district, more than two centuries old, there occurs the following passage:—"About two miles of Oswestry within the p'rishe there is a poole called llynclys of w'ch poole Humfrey Lloyd reporteth thus: German Altisidorensis p'ched sometime there against the Pelagian heresie. The King whereof as is there read, because hee

refused to heare that good man by the secrett & terrible iudgment of God w'th his pallace & all his household was swallowed up into the bowelles of the earth. Suo in loco non procue al oswaldia est Stagnu' incognita p'funditatis llynclys id est vorago palatij in hunc diem dictu'. In that place whereas not far from Oswestry is nowe a standing water of an unknown depth called llynclys that is the devouring of the pallace." To this there is a side note, as follows:—"Rex Powisia." NEMO.

CHURCH BELLS (Sep. 25, 1878).—Your correspondent LANDWOR sent the inscriptions on *Wrexham* bells, which you published Nov. 4, 1874, and you have had some account of peals rung on them in more recent issues (Aug. 28, 1878). To the information already given I am able to add some further particulars from the *Wrexham Recorder*, published by the late Mr. Richard Hughes, of Church-street, Wrexham, in Apr. 1848. SENEX, who communicated the information to the magazine, said he took it from "a memorandum book of one of the churchwardens of olden time;" and it contained the following items:—

An Account of what the ten bells, in St. Giles's Tower, Wrexham, cost in framing, carriage, and expence of casting, &c., at Mr. A. Rudhall's Foundry, Gloucester, in 1726:—

Robert Elice, Esq.	} Church-Wardens.
John Palford, gent.	
Edward Edwards, barber	
John Price, dyer	

Paid for Ale, to treat different strange ringers	£	s.	d.
Mr. Rogers, for squaring timber	2	3	8
Bell Trainer, in part	5	8	0
Carriage of Bells from Gloucester to Salop, up the River Severn	17	19	5
Mr. Rogers, carpenter, in part	8	1	0
Mr. Edwards, blacksmith, in part	12	11	0
Mr. Comberbach, Chester, Looker over	2	9	6
Mr. Rogers, carpenter	40	2	6
Cable rope to take down old bells	0	5	0
Church-Wardens' expences to Salop to meet the bells, horse hire, &c.	0	10	0
Bell Framer's balance	32	0	0
Postages, and spent at different meetings, concerning the bells	1	10	0
Ropes, per contract	3	19	0
Edwards, blacksmith, balance	9	9	0
Clay for floor under bells, to tune	0	16	8
John Bacon, for claying under bells	0	5	10
Rogers, carpenter, bill in full	10	3	0

These were the minor items. There is also the grand account to Abraham Rudhall for the bells, which was paid in instalments of £28, £112, £10, £28, £16, and £100, making in all a total of £294; which added to the incidentals previously given, brings up the total expense to £450 18s. 7d. The record before me then gives the inscriptions on the bells, and adds the information as to weight, &c., you have already published, stating also that the Private Subscriptions amounted to £160, and that the remainder was raised by the parish. So I presume nearly £300 was raised by compulsory rates. S.H.W.

THE BOSCOBEL OAK. (July 3, 24, Oct. 23, 1878).—The Rev. W. A. Leighton, Luciefelde, Shrewsbury, sends to the *Gardeners' Chronicle* the following communication on the subject:—

As such diversity of opinion exists as the identity of the present Boscobel Oak, founded only on oral tradition, it may be well to place on record my own reminiscences. In 1820, when a boy of fifteen years old, I was a pupil at Wolverhampton Free Grammar School, under the head master, Rev. Wm. Tindal. At the Easter and shorter holidays I used to visit an aunt of my mother's, Mrs. Lucy Careless, who resided at Brewood, about two miles from Boscobel. During these visits I was more than once taken to see Boscobel House and the 'Royal Oak.' But

I was expressly told, both by my aunt and all the families around with whom she visited, that the present tree was not the original Oak, but a sapling which grew near to the original tree, which itself had long ago gone to decay. The original tree was an old pollarded Oak, and when in decay, had been removed piecemeal by visitors, and she gave me a small rotten piece of 'touchwood,' which she stated was a fragment of the original 'Royal Oak,' and which she herself had taken from it. This also was the universal tradition of the neighbourhood. The present tree was, when I saw it in 1820, enclosed with a square brick wall seven or eight feet high, in one side of which was a wooden door, and over it, let into the brickwork, a brass plate, on which was engraved an inscription in Latin; but there were no remains of the old tree. The stone table, now broken and embedded in the ground near a gate in the garden, was then entire, and in the alcove on the mound. My aunt was baptised in 1757, and her husband, Mr. Thomas Careless, in 1750, and both lived to nearly eighty years of age at Brewood. Mr. Careless's father was an assistant master at Brewood Grammar School, and of course could not but be acquainted with the traditions of the locality, which probably he handed down to his son. Supposing then that he was born about 1730, we have, down to the present year, an uninterrupted oral tradition of 148 years, founded on a credible basis, and as worthy of belief as any other similar tradition. Mrs. Careless's description of the tree tallies in all respects with what Dr. Stukeley saw on his visit, and confirms the Doctor's statements. No one, on inspecting the present tree, can hesitate in observing that it can never have been pollarded, though some of the lower boughs have been roughly pruned off. See *Beauties of England and Wales, Shropshire* (1813), p. 312, as to the present tree and the Latin inscription. Boscobel House was in 1829 either occupied by or was the property of Mr. Lockley, 'a mighty hunter' in his day.

JESUS COLLEGE.

The first public lecture for the season in connection with the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion was delivered on Friday, December 20, at the Freemasons' Tavern, by the Rev. D. J. Davies, M.A., rector of North Benfleet, on "Jesus College, Oxford." The chair was occupied by Mr. Lewis Morris. At the close the Lecturer was very loudly applauded, and a resolution was unanimously passed condemning the sweeping spoliation policy proposed to be carried by the authorities of that College.—A resolution was proposed by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. Jeremy, "That a vote of condolence be presented to her Majesty the Queen on the recent royal bereavement," which was unanimously agreed to.

After some preliminary remarks on Education in Wales, and on the rise of Jesus College, the Lecturer proceeded to describe the proposed alterations. He said—The Act under which the new statutes must be made directs that "in making a statute affecting a university or College emolument regard shall be had to the main design of the Founder, except where the same has ceased to be observed before the passing of the Act, or where the trusts conditions or directions affecting the emolument have been altered in substance by or under any other Act." This clause seems at one time to have given the advocates of the proposed scheme a good deal of anxiety. Hence they laboured to prove that Founders' wills were absurd and foolish, and worthy objects of ridicule and contempt to an enlightened 19th century reformer. In fact, according to them, the only good thing about a Founder was his money. But at last a gentleman who boasts of thirty years' acquaintance with the Principal of Jesus, and is doubtless inspired by him, announced that he had made a great discovery, by means of which the difficulties connected with this clause would at once be removed. He found, what was already very well known, that in the original charter of the College no local restrictions were imposed upon the tenure of the Fellowships and Scholarships, and he argued that to remove such restrictions now was only to revert to the original

practice and carry out in the strictest sense the intention of the Founder. Now in the first place this method of arguing is mere trifling and unworthy of a man who has had the advantage of thirty years' acquaintance with the head of an Oxford College. When it suits him he pleads the design of the Founder, but when it does not suit him the Founder was a foolish, shortsighted, crotchety, bigoted, and unlightened fellow. But as the Act of Parliament directs that regard must be had to the design of the Founder, and as it is undoubtedly true that Hugh ap Rice in the Charter imposes no limitations on the Fellows and Scholars for whom he built his College, and hence a superficial acquaintance with the facts may lead one to suppose that Dr. ap Rice did not intend to confine the Fellowships and Scholarships to Welshmen, I must ask your attention while I place before you some considerations which bear upon this point. Although the Founder built a College for a Principal, eight Fellows, and eight Scholars, he made absolutely no provision for their maintenance. What right, then, had Dr. ap Rice to impose restrictions upon the tenure of Fellowships and Scholarships which he did not endow? Whatever intentions he may have had to limit the Fellowships when they should hereafter be endowed by others, these intentions conferred upon him no legal right to direct how such endowments were to be distributed. His legal inability to insert restrictive clauses in the Charter does by no means prove that he would not have done so if he could. We must therefore look for evidence as to his intention elsewhere. Now the first Principal was David Lewis, D.C.L., Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, who died in London and was buried in the Church of Abergavenny, his native place. Of the eight fellows, John Lloyd was Dean of St. Asaph; William Aubrey was born at Cantre, in Breconshire, and held a Fellowship at All Souls; Thomas Huit was Chaunter of St. David's; John Cotterell was Principal of St. Lawrence Hall, the site of which Jesus College occupied. It was very likely a condition that the Principal of the dissolved Hall should be made a Fellow of the College that was to replace it. Of the other Fellows nothing is known except that two of them were Fellows of All Souls. But those of whom anything is known, with the exception of Cotterell, were undoubtedly Welsh. I know of no way of satisfactorily accounting for this, except on the supposition that the Founder intended that his College should be confined, at least chiefly, to his own countrymen. There is plenty of other evidence which makes this supposition highly probable. In *Athenæ Oxoniensis*, a work well known to some of you to contain among other things a short biography of every distinguished graduate of Oxford from the earliest times down to the 18th century, are found passages like the following: "David Powell, a native of Denbighshire, a learned antiquarian, entered Oxford in 1566, but at what College is not known. Sure it is that as soon as Jesus College was founded he translated himself thereunto." "William Myddelton, another native of Denbighshire, poet and warrior, translator of the Psalms into Welsh, entered at Oxford, but whether at Jesus College, at its first foundation, as possibly it may be, is not known." Thomas Lloyd, a Commoner of New Inn, translated himself in 1589 to Jesus, of which College he became Fellow. To these I may add Henry Vaughan, not the Silurist, tutor to Sir Leoline Jenkins, who migrated from Oriel to Jesus, and John Lloyd, a Carmarthenshire man, sometime Bishop of St. David's, who migrated from Merton to Jesus, where he became Scholar, and afterwards Fellow. And there are many more. Now, it seems to me that these migrations of

Welshmen from other Colleges to Jesus after it was founded prove beyond dispute that the Welshmen of those days understood that their compatriot founded the College chiefly for their benefit. And as some of these migrations took place in the lifetime of Dr. A'Price, it was not a matter of mere conjecture what the intention of the founder was. There is another piece of corroborative evidence to the same effect for which I am indebted to the Dean of Bangor, who would have been present with us to-night had circumstances permitted. "Tradition has handed down to us the following doggerel lines affixed as a pasquinade on the doors of Jesus College by some members of Trinity, 'Hugh Price built this College for a pack of Welsh geese to eat toasted cheese!' The following reply of the Welshmen of Jesus has also been handed down—

'Ye men of Trinity, hard as any metal,
Take down your bell and hang up your Kettel.'

Now, if we bear in mind that Hugh ap Rice founded Jesus College in 1571, and Ralph Kettel became President of Trinity only twenty-seven years later, it is evident that the distinctively Welsh character of the former College was recognized in the University at a very early date in its history." With such evidence before us there can be no reasonable doubt that the intention of Dr. A'Price, though for reasons already assigned, not expressed, in the Charter, was to build a college for Welshmen. But if it should still be contended that the evidence on this point is inconclusive, and that the Founder intended that his College should afford assistance to all, irrespective of nationality, then the utmost that can be claimed is that his intention should control that very small fraction of the endowments which the College derived from him. Besides the original Founder, the College has had many benefactors, most of whom bequeathed their property to further in one way or another the cause of higher education in Wales. I do not wish to be supposed to contend that the distribution of their bequests should now be made in the precise manner directed in their wills. Some of their provisions have become unsuited to the circumstances of the present times, and others contrary to public policy. In one case the funds have increased so as to be enormously disproportionate to the objects named by him. I understand that the rule of law in such matters is, where the precise object of the Founders can no longer be regarded, or the funds have far outgrown the amount which he assigned to it, to approach in any new scheme as near as can be to the Founder's plan. This cannot always be done with any degree of certainty. Indeed the difficulty has been found so great that whenever cases of this kind have been brought before the Court of Chancery, decisions have depended more upon the private opinion of the judge than on any principle of law. Now, though the wills of the benefactors, made as they were from one to three centuries ago, are not free from many things that now appear absurd, yet in nearly all of them, the paramount object is plain enough, which was to help to extend the University to Wales. As Welshmen stand quite as much in need of protection and assistance in the matter of education now as they ever did, there is no good reason why this paramount object should be disregarded. But it has been urged by one of the ablest authoritative advocates of what I must call the spoliation scheme that justice demands the surrender of Welsh endowments at Oxford. He says, "It will be hard to convince unprejudiced persons that, whereas the English Colleges have thrown open all, or nearly all, their endowments to Welshmen, Welshmen can fairly refuse to admit Englishmen to share (and a share only is asked) in the special advantages

which they themselves possess." The force of this argument, so far as it has any, lies in the words "all," "nearly all," and "special." If it can be shown that these words are not in accordance with the facts the argument will be gone. In the year 1871, the eighteen endowed English colleges then existing at Oxford paid away in Scholarships and Exhibitions £36,127 10s. 7d. It is asserted by the advocates of the "transformation scheme" that all, or nearly this sum, has been thrown open to Welshmen. But what are the facts? In 1871 boys from Welsh schools were not permitted to compete for Scholarships and Exhibitions amounting to £15,440. The truth, then, is that the English Colleges, out of an aggregate of £36,127 10s. 7d., still reserve a sum of at least £15,440 a year for persons educated at particular schools, or born in particular localities other than Welsh ones, and have thrown open to all comers £20,687 10s. 7d.; that is what "unprejudiced persons" would call a little more than half of the whole amount at their disposal. Again the advocates of the scheme speak of the "special" educational advantages which Welshmen possess. By "special" I presume they mean uncommon, so that their statement amounts to this: that Welshmen have educational advantages differing in character from those that are commonly found elsewhere, and that in this respect they are better off than Englishmen. Now, that similar advantages are not uncommon will be at once seen by a reference to the Oxford Calendar, and the only surprise will be, not that so much, but that so little money should have been left for the sole use of poor Welsh scholars. Out of a long list that might be given of English schools to which Scholarships at various colleges are appropriated, it will be sufficient for my purpose to mention three. A sum of £3,000 annually is set apart at New for the benefit of boys who have been educated at Winchester; £2,100 annually at St. John's for boys from Merchant Taylors'; and £2,000 annually at Christ Church, for boys from Westminster; while all the Welsh schools have, according to the calendar, only £2,800 annually, being twenty Scholarships of £80, and "nearly thirty Exhibitions" of £40. To compare the "special" advantages of Welsh schools with those of the English schools above mentioned, it should be recollected that the number of boys at Welsh Grammar Schools in 1871 was 1,136, while the number at the three selected English schools did not exceed 800. The amount of appropriated Scholarships and Exhibitions in one case was £2,800; in the other, with 300 fewer boys to provide for, £7,200! But even if it were the fact that the English Colleges had thrown open all their endowments, and Welsh schools alone possessed appropriated scholarships, there are other weighty reasons why Wales should not be deprived of her privileges at Oxford. The secondary schools of Wales are poorly endowed, probably more so than any one who has not looked into the matter would imagine. There is another ground on which I base my objection to the proposed alienation of the endowments of Jesus College from Wales, viz., the ground of general expediency. So long as communities are governed as much by the force of circumstances as by the force of principles, the lower ground of expediency must sometimes be resorted to. Looking at the problem from this point of view, the two great questions which the Commissioners have to consider are these: 1st. What will be most expedient for the interests of education in connection with Wales? 2nd. What may be best for the general interests of education and of the public? There is a third, which is of little importance to the public at large, but which the authorities of Jesus are apt to think the most important of all. It is this: What is most expedient for the College, regarded

merely as a teaching establishment whose staff are anxious that their pupils should do them credit by brilliant success in the schools? It may be, perhaps, added on the river. It is natural enough that the Principal and Fellows should desire the removal of restrictions which handicap them in their competition with other Colleges. They may think it hard to be condemned to devote their skill and energy to train young men, the majority of whom are very ill prepared when they come to the University, and afterwards be taunted with the remark that their men seldom take first classes. But they knew of these disadvantages when they accepted their posts, and in spite of them the competitions for open Fellowships at Jesus is not less keen than it is at other Colleges. With regard to the Welsh Fellows, it is scarcely reasonable for them to claim the advantages of the close-system and grumble at its disadvantages. They were glad enough to avail themselves of restrictive conditions, when want of ability or imperfect training would have made it impossible for them to win prizes in open competition. But having risen to their present positions by means of close Scholarships and Fellowships they scorn the base degrees by which they did ascend. With regard to the first of the other two questions there can be no doubt that to deprive Welshmen of the privileges they have hitherto enjoyed at Oxford would produce a disastrous effect upon the cause of education in Wales. Poor as we have seen it already is, both in educational resources and in other respects, no one can seriously hold such a manifestly absurd proposition that Wales would benefit by the changes that are proposed. At the same time it may be expedient that the change should be made if the benefit that is likely to accrue to the general cause of education can be shown to be greater than the injury that would be inflicted on the Principality. With the aid of the facts I have already stated I hope to settle this point. I suppose it will be admitted that scholarships and exhibitions should, if possible, be given to the most intellectual boys in the country, who cannot afford to defray the whole expense of their education. Which do you consider is the best way of doing this? To give many scholarships to one district and few or none to another, or to treat all districts alike? Now I take it that under similar conditions of climate and employment natural talents are pretty evenly distributed. So that if you made an assortment of one hundred boys from one district and a similar assortment from another district of equal population within this island, I should expect the average intellectual merit of each group to be the same. I should expect to find in each the same percentage of boys that would be worth educating at the public expense. Now, in comparing the educational resources of England and Wales, we found that for areas of equal population school exhibitions to the University in England were to those in Wales in the proportion of six to two. So that under the present system our educational endowments are not in this respect spent to the best advantage. The proposed changes, if carried out, will make things worse. For they will lower the average intellectual merit of our scholars by the admission in greater numbers of men of moderate ability to the exclusion of others who are more deserving. I have asked before, is this fair? I now ask you, from the point of view the State ought to take of the question, is it expedient? I venture to think that it is not. The proposed reforms in the administration of the funds of Jesus College, having in my opinion being found to be neither in accordance with the main design of the founders nor with the principles of justice and of general expediency,

I proceed to throw out a few hints and suggestions for the framing of a scheme which would satisfy the claims of all three, while at the same time it would render the College more efficient as a place of education, learning, and research. Saving existing rights, the salary of the Principal might, with great advantage to the cause of education, be reduced from £2,000 a year to half that amount. And in addition to exercising a general superintendence and control over the affairs of the College, and presiding over College meetings, he should be required to take part in the actual teaching of the College. At the election of a Principal, the Governing Body should have in view, not only his fitness to govern the College, but also his proved aptitude for imparting instruction in some advanced branch of learning. Saving existing rights, the six-and-a-half open Fellowships should be restored to those for whom they were founded. The Fellowships should be divided into two classes; the first-class consisting of four, with duties attached to them, and of the value of £600 a year each. The work of the College would be done by the holders of these Fellowships and the Principal. The remainder of the Fellowships' Fund and the saving effected in the Principal's salary would be sufficient to found at least twelve prize Fellowships without duties, tenable for eight or ten years, of the value of £200, a year each, and open to the whole of Wales, provided only that candidates should be required to have graduated at some recognized University in the United Kingdom. The objects of such Fellowships would be to place promising young men in a position of comparative independence during the first few, usually barren, years of professional life. With regard to Scholarships, they might be left as they are. The Meyrick Exhibitions, however, might with advantage be distributed among the Welsh Grammar Schools, or means should be devised to make them more useful to the College. In the hands of the present energetic head masters of the Welsh schools, they would produce a marked improvement in the state of secondary education in Wales. The College so reformed would consist of a Principal, four Staff Fellows, and twelve prize Fellows, and about twenty-four scholars. It would depend upon the character of the Principal and Fellows whether they would have any Commoners. A Commoner is an undergraduate who receives nothing from the College by way of Scholarships or Exhibitions. The Commoners are, therefore, usually richer than the scholars, and at most colleges more numerous. And as they choose their College, not with a view to the money they can get at it, but on account of inherited associations, or its reputation for this or that good thing, it mainly depends upon the tact, ability, and energy of the Principal or Tutor whether the College be full or empty. If the Principal has a hankering after Englishmen, by all means let him have as many as he can get in a fair way; but let him not appropriate the moneys that have been left for other purposes to bribe them to come. I shall rejoice to see the College full of English Commoners; and if the Principal and his staff are men that could fill any other College, they can fill their own. A good deal has been written of late about the discipline and morals of the undergraduates. I have no certain knowledge of either. But I have no hesitation in saying that if Welsh boys at Oxford are worse than English boys, the change for the worse happens after they have gone to Oxford; and is, I venture to assert, attributable entirely to circumstances over which the authorities of Jesus (if they will and know how) can exercise complete control. It may be advisable in the case of Jesus College to adopt the system which has been found to answer so well at Keble. At Keble College a uniform charge of £81 per annum, divided into three

equal terminal payments, is imposed on all, and this includes all charges for maintenance, tuition, fees, rent of rooms, and of furniture, and of fuel. Let the authorities try some such plan, or give up their posts to others who will, rather than be the means of reducing into still greater educational destitution, a people whose love for knowledge has been proved by their energetic and self-denying efforts to provide for themselves without State aid, the advantages of academic culture which their more fortunate neighbours have for centuries enjoyed.

A SHROPSHIRE STORY.

The following is from the *University Magazine*:—An intimate friend of mine, who told me the incident, was once staying at a large mansion in Shropshire, and was one morning looking with his host from a window which commanded a portion of the garden, when, pointing to a particular spot, his friend said that it was the scene of a very remarkable transaction in the time of his predecessor, who, I believe, was a nobleman; but whether he was or not, it happened one night that he was unusually restless, and, unable to sleep, he rose and paced the room, passing to and fro between his bed and the window, from which latter he observed a light in the garden, that light being occasionally obscured by a dark figure. After looking on for some time he became interested, and finally uneasy. He was an old man; but, in order to satisfy himself, he dressed himself and proceeded to the spot where he saw the light. When he arrived there he found the gardener employed in a portion of the ground which had been prepared for potatoes, and digging a trench or pit about six feet long and two wide. He at once asked the gardener what he was doing there at that hour of the night. "Digging a cucumber bed, my lord," was the reply. "This is not a time or a place to be digging cucumber beds; go home instantly to your cottage, and I will speak to you about it in the morning," said his lordship; and was returning to the house, when he met the cook with a bundle under her arm. "What," inquired the nobleman, "do you do here at this time of the night?" The woman hesitated, muttered something, and then, bursting into tears, confessed that she had appointed to meet the gardener at that particular spot, and that he was to have a light cart waiting at the gate in which to convey her to the market town, where they were to be married. "Go back to your bed," said her master, "and thank God upon your knees that you have been saved from a horrible death." On the next morning the gardener's cottage was deserted, and he was never seen or heard of afterwards. Of course it was his intention to murder his paramour, and bury her in the grave which he had prepared, and which, made in the rough ground of a potato piece, might have remained for years undiscovered.

JANUARY 8, 1879.

NOTES.

PARISH LAW LAST CENTURY.—The following curious document has been preserved. As it speaks for itself it requires no notes or comment:—

"Bond from ye churchwarden and overseer of the poor of ye parish of Llanbadarn fawr to the Inhabitants of the parish of Llanychaïarn—Con'son' letting a woman lye in, the Llanychaïarn, and Llanbd. to take her and the child after'ds.—20th August 1787.

"Know all men by these presents. That we Evan Lloyd and Theophilus James both of the parish of Llan-

badarn fawr in the county of Cardigan farmers are held and firmly bound to Evan Rees overseer of the poor of the parish of Llanychaïarn in the said county and Richard Thomas Oliver churchwarden of the same parish in the penal sum of Two hundred pounds of good and lawful money of Great Britain to be paid to the said Evan Rees and Richard Thomas Oliver or their certain attorney executors administrators or assigns for the True payment whereof we bind ourselves jointly and severally our heirs executors administrators and assigns by these presents sealed with our seals dated this twentieth day of August in the Twenty-seventh year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George by the grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King defender of the Faith and so forth and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven.

"Whereas Gwennlian Lisa daughter of Jenkin Lisa whose legal settlement is in the parish of Llanbadarn fawr aforesaid is with child and is likely to become chargeable to the parish of Llanychaïarn and whereas the above Boundens Evan Lloyd and Theophilus in consideration of the Parishioners of the said parish of Llanychaïarn permitting the said Gwennlian Lisa to lye in, in the said parish of Llanychaïarn have agreed to Indemnify the said parish of Llanychaïarn from the said child when born and all costs charges and expences attending the same. Now the condition of this Obligation is such That if the said Evan Lloyd and Theophilus James or either of them their or either of their Heirs Executors or Administrators do and shall from time to time and at all Times hereafter well and sufficiently Indemnify and save harmless as well the above named overseer and churchwarden of the said parish of Llanychaïarn and their successors for the time being as also all and singular the Inhabitants of the said parish which now are or hereafter may be for the time being of and from all manner of costs Taxes rates assessments and charges whatsoever for or by reason of the Birth Education and Maintenance of the said child and of and from all Actions Suits Troubles and other charges and demands whatsoever touching or concerning the same That then this present obligation to be void otherwise to be and remain in full force."

This is signed by Evan Lloyd and Theophilus James in the presence of Wm. Bowen and Jenkin Joel. J.G.

QUERIES.

OSWESTRY CHARTERS.—Many years since, about the year 1845, there was, amongst the Records, a Charter with an initial letter, containing a beautiful illuminated miniature or vignette, representing King Richard II., arrayed in his Royal or Coronation Robes. Can any of the readers of *Bye-gones* inform me if this valuable charter is still amongst the muniments of the Corporation? W.

THE CYCLE.—Some time back there were references to a secret society called "The Cycle." In the *Chester Chronicle* of Jan. 14, 1791, there is the following advertisement:—

R. W. WYNNE, Esq'r's, CYCLE

Will be held at the EAGLES INN, Wrexham, on

Monday the 17th inst.

DINNER at THREE O'CLOCK.

Gartherwin, Jan. 6, 1791.

Had the foregoing any reference to the secret society previously referred to, and what? N.W.S.

REPLIES.

ESCAPE OF GENERAL PHILIPPON.—There have been several references to the sojourn of the French Prisoners at War in Oswestry during the years 1812—14, and on July 24, 1878, I was able to give some additional particulars respecting the escape of Gen. Philippou and another officer named Garnier. As I have previously mentioned, we are usually told by old Oswestrians that "the miller with the fleet horse" was never heard of more after the escape of the General. It will now be found that if he was never seen more in Oswestry, he was very effectively exhibited elsewhere, as the following records from the Shropshire newspapers of the period will show:—

July 10, 1812—Phillippon, the late Governor of Badajoz, who surrendered to the Earl of Wellington on the 6th of April, and was sent by the Government on a parole to Oswestry, contrived to quit the town on Wednesday, July 8, accompanied by an officer of artillery named Garnier. It has not yet been ascertained whether these disgraceful fugitives have gone; but there is some reason to suppose that they are attended by three persons who reside near Deal.

July 24, 1812—We understand that positive information was received by the Transport Board, on Friday last, of the safe arrival of General Philippou on the French coast. When the account of the desertion of General Philippou from Oswestry, in this county, was received on the coast, some hundreds of Germans, who had been under his command in the garrison of Badajoz, and who have since volunteered into the regiments of the King's German Legion, entreated permission to be allowed to go in search of him, and were permitted. These men have a perfect detestation for Philippou, who, they say, treated them with great harshness and indignity. The German recruits have been very active in their search for Philippou, and thence it is supposed that this parole breaker remains in close concealment in this country. It was reported at Bexhill, a few days ago, that a fisherman, belonging to Rye, had been found with Shropshire bank notes upon him to the amount of £150; whence it was inferred that he had aided Philippou. It was ascertained, however, that he had not taken over the General, though he had made some recent trips to the French coast, and was, in fact, but just returned from one of them.—The general opinion appears to be, that Philippou was assisted in his escape by a person from the west who had recently taken a mill in the neighbourhood of Oswestry, and who is now not to be found; his servant has been examined, but no knowledge of the fugitives can be gained further than their arrival in this town.—The Prince d' Aremberg has been removed from Oswestry to Bridgnorth.

August 7, 1812—London.—On Friday, Taunton arrived in this town with a postboy of the name of Yoxall, in his custody, from Birmingham, on a charge of being concerned in aiding and abetting in the escape of Gen. Philippou.—It has since been ascertained the boy was enticed into this business, being ignorant of what he was about to engage in. He was conveyed into Wales, where he was dressed in a suit of livery, and was directed to travel in a dickey on the outside of the carriage, and to travel to the coast in Sussex. Three Gentlemen travelled in the coach, two of them never spoke in his hearing; they are supposed to be General Philippou and a Lieutenant in the French army; the other person travelled with them as their valet; he is supposed to be Robinson, a miller, in disguise; he answered all questions, paid all monies, &c. He is supposed to have gone over to France, and to have landed the officers there—Yoxall is to be admitted an evidence against the others

in custody.—Five persons have been brought to town from Rye in Sussex, and from Oswestry.

August 14, 1812—At Sussex Assizes James Robinson, John Hughes, William Hatter, and William Turner, were indicted for a conspiracy to aid the escape of Arnaud Philippou and Philip Augustus Garnier, French prisoners of war, from Oswestry, in Shropshire. Mr. Sergeant Best opened the case, and detailed the evidence, as follows:—Mr. Tooley proved that General Philippou was a prisoner at Oswestry, and that the last time he saw him was about twelve o'clock on the night of the 30th of June. Garnier had also been a prisoner about three years. Philippou was a tall man, about six feet, thin, with a scar over his eye, and usually wore a grey coat, with a blue great coat. Garnier was about five feet six inches, thin and pale, and wore a blue coat, with a brown great coat.—The defendant Robinson had lately taken a mill within three miles of Oswestry, but had not carried on much business as a miller. On the 30th of June he sent his servant to Shrewsbury, to get a weighing machine, and directed him to wait his coming. At length, in the evening, Robinson came in a gig, and had a poney tied to the shafts; he told the man to go forward to Hay Gate with him; and the man rode the poney until they overtook a gentleman on the road, a small man in a blue coat and brown great coat. They went to Hay Gate, which is on the road from Shrewsbury to Birmingham, and there Robinson bespoke a chaise; and himself, with two gentlemen, got into it, and went away for Birmingham. The postboys then traced Robinson and the two gentlemen to the Shakespeare Tavern at Birmingham, where they breakfasted next morning, when a travelling chariot, with a dickey box, took them from the Shakespeare. It appeared that Robinson had passed through Birmingham about ten days before, and had bespoke the carriage at a Mr. Wheelley's, a coachmaker, at Birmingham, and had agreed at the same time with a post-chaise driver, of the name of Yoxall, to go with him as a servant, for which he was to give him 1*l.* a day and a new hat and coat. Accordingly, Yoxall came with the carriage to the Shakespeare Tavern, and then travelled with them as a servant. At length they arrived at Rye, and were put down at a public house kept by the defendant Hughes.—While they were at Birmingham, Robinson received a letter, in the handwriting of Hughes, signed by Jones, that all was well and ready.—Robinson and the two persons with him, continued at Rye some days. In the meantime the escape of General Philippou was made public, and a sharp look-out was kept along the coast for any boat going out or coming in from sea; on the 12th of July, an open boat was seen rowing into Rye, early in the morning, which had Robinson, Hatter and Turner on Board. Robinson got on shore before the officers could overtake him, and upon their questioning the other two defendants as to who he was, they said he resided in that neighbourhood. He was traced to the house of Hughes, and when the officers entered the house his boots were wet with sea water. He said, upon being questioned, it was so, and that he had been out all night at sea, mackerel fishing. Upon this statement, himself Hughes, and the other two men were taken into custody. There was no distinct evidence as to the identity of the persons of Philippou and his companion; but all the witnesses gave a description of their persons, answering to the description given of them by Mr. Tooley, the agent at Oswestry.

The trial lasted five hours. Turner was acquitted, but the other three were found guilty and sentenced each to two years' imprisonment in Horsham Jail, before the expiration of one month of which, Robinson and Hughes are

to stand in the pillory at Rye, and by the Judge's directions, "as high as possible to the spot from whence the French officers are supposed to have embarked, in order that the prisoners might, from their elevated situation, have an opportunity of *observing the coast* of the country they had so much favoured."

This was sensational justice with a vengeance, and such as would bring down the house if decreed from the boards of a transpontine theatre. After the escape of Philippon—who was a somewhat notorious officer—our rulers seem to have waked up to the necessity of preventing these scandals; accordingly we are told that "Government, in order to check the escape of French prisoners, as also the guinea export and smuggling system, gave orders a few days since for the seizure of all galleys of a certain description, carrying eight oars; 17 were seized at Deal, 10 at Folkestone, Sandgate, &c. They are a beautiful description of boats, about 40 feet long, painted on the outside so as to elude the sight at sea in the night, so lightly constructed that nothing can catch them, and in calm weather they can row over to the French coast in 2 hours."

JARCO.

["Toosley" probably is a misprint. The gentleman in charge of the French prisoners in Oswestry was Mr. Tozer—afterwards Aubrey.—Ed.]

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Dec. 25, 1878.)

COMBERBACH, ROGER, who in 1663 disclaimed his right to arms when Sir William Dugdale visited Cheshire upon his Heraldic Mission, deserves a niche in these records, as a member of a very old Cheshire family, who derived from a Norman adventurer who came over to England with the Conqueror. He was born at Nantwich in the year 1596, it was supposed, being the second son of another Roger, who died when this son was seven years old. If his father was a man of substance, the elder brother probably inherited it, and this son wisely went to trade, and in 1637 attained the height of his ambition by becoming churchwarden of his native parish. He is to be praised therefore for "disclaiming his right to arms," for although he was by blood a gentleman, he wisely concluded that his title to honourable mention should rest upon his own good character, and not upon any heraldic device he might be entitled to in virtue of his ancestry.

COMBERBACH, ROGER, a connection of the last named, but son of one James Comberbach, was born at Nantwich in 1666, and was evidently brought up to the law, for in 1688 he became clerk of the Courts of Pentice, Crownmote, and Portmote at Chester, and in the year 1700 he was appointed recorder of that city. In 1717, he became a member of the Inner Temple, and according to *Ormerod* he served as one of the judges for Anglesea, Carnarvon, and Merioneth. He died in 1719, and five years afterwards his son published a volume of reports collected by his father, and from the preface to that work we gather, that the author had been a protegee of Lord Chancellor Macclesfield. Mr. Comberbach was much respected at Chester, and in 1700 the Corporation of that City put up "the Recorder's steps" for the convenience of their honoured functionary, when he desired to take "his walks abroad" upon the ancient and curious walls surrounding Chester. His portrait, too, is put up in the Town Hall, there.

COMBERBACH, ROGER, son of the last named must not be passed over altogether, for he was a native of Chester, a barrister of the Inner Temple (called 1721), editor of his father's reports published 1724, "Prothonotary of the Palatinate of Chester 1734," and LL.B. of Lambeth

1749. He was moreover an author, for he published "The Contest, in which is exhibited a preface in favor of blank verse, with an experiment of it in an Ode upon the British Country Life by R.C." His many honours sat meekly upon him, and yet, he must have been a person of consequence, for he married a Swetenham of Somerford Booths, and had by her a son of the same name (also Prothonotary of the Palatinate of Chester) who in his turn married another Swetenham, and carried the line down in all honour to the family who now assume the mother's name in preference to their own. "R.C." died in 1757.

CONINGSBY, GEORGE, a Herefordshire man, and of an ancient and honourable family connected with the county. He was educated for the Church, and in 1732 held the vicarage of Bodenham, in his native county. A sermon, which he preached at Hereford Cathedral at the anniversary meeting of the three choirs, was published at Oxford in 1733. Another sermon of his preached at Hereford in 1742, before the Mayor and Corporation, was published at Oxford. He was then a D.D. Some other sermons have been attributed to him, but not upon any good authority.

CONINGSBY, HUMPHREY, is supposed to have been born at Neen Sollars, in Shropshire, about 1567. In the year 1594 he went abroad and remained there four years, and then returned home. After that he went abroad a second time to fight under the banner of Rodolph, the second emperor of the Romans, "for the defence of the Christian faith," against the Turks. He was a very remarkable man both as a soldier and scholar, and has been highly spoken of, in the latter character especially. In 1610, after a short residence in England, he proceeded to Venice, and was never after heard of.

CONINGSBY, SIR THOMAS, a native of Herefordshire, and a member of the fine old family of that name, who had dwelt at Hampton Court in that county, is celebrated as the benevolent founder of Coningsby's Hospital at Hereford. He died in 1652, and his honoured remains lie interred at Hope Church, where there are many memorials to be seen of other members of his house.

COOKE, WILLIAM, born at Wem, Salop, 1796, after obtaining a fair education in the locality of his home, proceeded to London, with a view of becoming a medical man. He was one of Abernethy's pupils at Bartholomew Hospital, and in 1806 he passed his College examination. He settled at Plaistow, in Essex, where he married, and soon became identified there with every good and useful institution. In 1819 he took part in the formation of the Hunterian Society, and was secretary or treasurer to it for half a century. He delivered several useful professional lectures, some of which were printed, and also a translation of a Latin medical work, and "A Treatise on the Disorders of the Digestive Organs." He removed to London in 1829, and remained there until his death in 1873. Through his mother—a Bickerton—he was a descendant of Philip Henry.

COOPER, WILLIAM, who was sheriff of Chester in 1554, was a native of that city, and had the unpleasant duty cast upon him of seeing that George Marsh suffered death by burning for his adherence to the Protestant faith. Mr. Cooper himself favoured the reformed religion, and is said to have planned a rescue for the prisoner, but he was overpowered by his co-sheriff, and had himself to flee to some other place for refuge. The death of Queen Mary enabled him to return back to Chester, and in 1561 he discharged the office of Mayor there with great credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the then "reformed" citizens.

CORBET, SIR JOHN, of Stoke and Adderley, was born in Shropshire, and was one of the five illustrious patriots who in 1627 opposed the forced loan and other illegal measures of the Court. When the civil war broke out, he espoused the cause of the Parliament, and did service to his country. He is one of the patriotic band who sacrificed every personal consideration upon the shrine of duty, for he could gain neither wealth nor honours by adopting the popular side, and had to face dangers and persecutions in view of the fearful struggles about to ensue.

CORBET, PANTON, son of that very excellent and greatly-honoured clergyman, Mr. Archdeacon Corbet, was nominated as a candidate for the representation of Shrewsbury in Parliament in the year 1819, in opposition to John Mytton, and although Mr. Mytton won on that occasion, Mr. Corbett, in the following year, gained his seat; the men thus brought before the public eye may be said to represent two great principles with which the happiness of England is bound up. Mr. Mytton, in his address, says "Finding that a proper and punctual attention to your interests and that of the country at large is incompatible with my present pursuits, it is not my intention to become a candidate for your suffrages." Mr. Archdeacon Corbet, speaking of his son, said, "With regard to the merits of the candidate you have brought forward, I will only observe that I never yet blushed for him as my son, and I trust that you will never have occasion to blush for him as your servant." We know the history of poor Jack Mytton too well to have to dwell upon the "pursuits" that took him away from Shrewsbury, and alas! from the world at a very early age, but his fine minded opponent, once returned to Parliament, devoted his attention to public affairs with the sole desire of serving his country. In 1826 he was re-elected, but in 1830 the Salopians turned him out of his seat for helping to pass the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, and the Catholic Emancipation Bill, two of the greatest measures ever passed in the Parliament of this nation.

CORBET, SIR PETER, a brave soldier, and a devoted adherent to his lord—Nicholas Lord Burnel—must not be forgotten, when other members of his house and name are honoured as among the chief of Salopian worthies. He was a young man who had gained his spurs very early in the reign of Edward 3rd, and in 1346, he was present at the siege of Calais, serving under his neighbour, friend, and Lord, Nicholas de Handlow, Lord of Burnel. Another gallant commander named Robert de Morley, who was present at the same time and place, had assumed unwarrantably the proud arms of the Burnels, and displaying them upon his banner, declared that he did so "of his own will and pleasure," and would defend his right to do so against all comers. Young Corbet, full of honourable zeal for his master, forthwith took up the quarrel and offered to combat with de Morley in support of the right which his lord had to the arms. The duel did not take place, for the King interposed his good offices to settle the dispute—that greatest of all the Plantagenets being sparing of the blood of his servitors, and wise as a serpent in his manner of doing so. To us, however, the gallantry and loyalty of young Corbet is a theme worthy of admiration, and Shropshire may well be proud of her Corbets, who in five hundred years from that time still retain the name and many of the virtues of this fine stripling, who was so ready to adventure his life in the just quarrel of his lord.

CORBET, SIR RICHARD, of Moreton Corbet, in Shropshire, was as brave a Salopian as ever put on armour. A devoted Lancastrian, he had saved his chief from

imminent danger at Banbury, and when he arrived at Shrewsbury in 1485, on his way to Bosworth, Sir Richard, with a band of eight hundred stout followers, was there ready to accompany him to that bloody battle-field. He placed before the King, after his investiture with the regal dignity, in a simple form, the services he had rendered to his Majesty, and we may hope that the King requited him right royally for all that he had done and suffered for him.

CORBET, RICHARD, second son of Sir Robert Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, Salop, was born in that place, and became "carver to Prynce Edward, standard bearer to his bande at Bullen, and one of the Queen's Majesties Counsell in the Marches of Wales." He adhered to the cause of Lady Jane Grey, was committed to the Tower in Queen Mary's reign, and was one of the four gentlemen excepted from her general pardon. He was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1561.

CORBET, THOMAS, son and heir of William Corbet, of Wattleborough, in Shropshire (the founder of the family), was born in that county, but he must needs go to the Holy Land, where he was taken captive, and remained away so long that he was supposed to be dead, upon which his younger brother Robert engaged to marry, that he might continue the line of his family. On the wedding day a pilgrim came into the house to join in the festivities. After a while he revealed himself to the assembled company as the long-lost brother. Robert forthwith offered to surrender the estate to the heir, but he declined to take it, and hence it is that the descendants of the second brother bear sway in Shropshire, both in position and in wealth. The Corbets who have descended from "Pilgrim Corbet" still sport the single raven for their arms, whilst those of Robert bear two.

CORBET, VINCENT, who came into possession of Moreton Corbet, in Salop, on the death of his brother, Sir Richard, in 1606, was a native of that county, and a good friend to the Puritans. He had, contrary to law, protected an aged neighbour of that sect, but was at last compelled to give him up. When his friend was leaving his house on his way to Shrewsbury Castle, pointing to the fine mansion then building, and angry that his protector had forsaken him, he exclaimed in true puritan fashion, "Boast not thyself in thy wealth, or in the stately mansion from which thou fondly hopes so much satisfaction, it shall never be inhabited, neither shall it be dwelt in from generation to generation, but wild beasts of the desert shall be there, and thy house shall be full of doleful creatures." It is satisfactory to know that notwithstanding this prognostication the Corbets of Moreton still flourish, and continue to command the respect and confidence of their countrymen.

CORCORAN, PETER, was born at Shrewsbury in the year 1794, and educated at the Free Grammar School of that town, whence he went to College, and to the Inns of Court as a law student; but he was more addicted to the muses than to the study of Blackstone and is better known as a poet than a lawyer. Some of his poetical pieces were collected in a volume, and published in 1820, under the title of "The Fancy; a selection from the poetical remains of Peter Corcoran." He had died before this book was printed, having wasted his life, it is said, in frivolity and idleness.

CORNWALL, JAMES, a very distinguished naval officer, was born at Hereford. He was in command of the Marlborough 90-gun ship, in the engagement before Toulon in 1744, where he was killed. At the commencement of the

action he had both his legs shot off; but such was his bravery that he stuck to his ship. His nephew lost an arm in the same action; and refusing to leave the deck, his uncle is reported to have said to him, "Fred, go down, and be dressed, you may live and be an honour to the navy; as for me, I cannot exist many hours, but while I live, must, and will, do my duty." In a short time after this noble speech had been delivered, he was shot through the heart and died. A sumptuous monument has been put up to his memory at Westminster Abbey at the cost of the nation.

CORSER, THOMAS, third son of George Corser, of Whitechurch, Salop, was born in that town, and having received the early part of his education there, he was sent in the year 1808 to the Manchester Grammar School, from whence he proceeded to Balliol College, Oxford, in 1812. In 1815 he graduated B.A., and in 1818 M.A., having in the interval been ordained to the curacy of Conderver in his native county. He held other preferments in the Church from that time to 1852, when he was appointed a rural dean for the Deanery of Prestwich, and this office he held till 1868, when from increasing age and infirmities he retired from it. He was passionately fond of literature, and some of the works edited by him for the *Chetham Society* indicate how thoroughly he had made himself acquainted with much of our early literature, and how keenly he appreciated its many beauties, and the particular characteristics of the writers engaged upon it.

COSTARD, GEORGE, born at Shrewsbury, 1809, went into the Church and became vicar of Twickenham, near London. He was a learned writer upon various subjects, and was a fellow and tutor of Wadham College, Oxford, where he himself had been educated. He died in 1872, so poor, that he had to be buried at the expense of his friends; a sad commentary upon the neglect with which some of our ablest men are often treated by those in authority. He had by his works done infinite service to the literature of his country, and was far better entitled to consideration than many of our fourth rate placemen, who by no merit of their own secure honours and wealth at the public expense.

COTTON, GEORGE, who in 1530 married Mary Ongley, and became the founder of the Combermere family, was born in Shropshire. He had been esquire of the body to King Henry VIII., and managed thus to secure for himself a great position and considerable wealth. He was made a Privy Councillor, Steward of Bromfield in Yale, Chirk and Chirk land, and Vice Chamberlain to Prince Edward. In 1533 Combermere and its lands fell to his share, and thus the Cottons became so closely identified with Cheshire, as to be accounted worthy of being ranked among her "chief of men."

COTTON, GEORGE, a native of Cheshire, and connected with the Combermere family, resided for some years at Huntingdon Hall, near Chester. He is mentioned with respect in the local records of the Methodist body as having permitted one of their preachers to use his house for meetings. In 1750 that body first visited the neighbourhood of Chester, and Mr. Cotton allowed them to use his house as a meeting place until they found a suitable one at Chester, in which to meet for prayer and praise. This conduct was the more honourable on Mr. Cotton's part if it be true that he was "a devout and punctilious Churchman," for the Methodists had been charged with schism, and their chief was then denounced as a wolf in sheep's clothing.

COTTON, HENRY, the place of his birth has been doubted, but Bishop Cotton states that "he was a mem-

ber of the Combermere family and born in Cheshire." He was educated at Westminster school, and in 1807 elected thence to Oxford, where he obtained first class honours in classics. He graduated M.A. in 1813, and was Greek reader at Christ Church. He is known as sub-librarian of the Bodleian, and writer of numerous valuable works. In 1820 he was made D.C.L., in 1823 prebend of Cashel, and next year archdeacon. In 1832 he was presented to the treasurer's office of Christ Church, Dublin, and in 1834 elected Dean of Lismore. It is fair to say that he is claimed by another county upon a baptismal certificate, but the explanation is that he was born in Cheshire and baptised elsewhere.

COTTON, JAMES HENRY, second son of George Cotton, Dean of Chester, was born at Dorfold Hall, in Cheshire, 1780. He was educated at Rugby and Cambridge, and having chosen the Church for his profession he was in 1803 ordained and made curate of Stoke in the county of Salop. In 1810 he became Vicar of Bangor and precentor in the cathedral church of that city, remaining there until in 1838, when at the instance of the Duchess of Kent, he was made Dean. This last office he held for the long period of twenty-four years to the great advantage of the Church and with marked honour and credit. He was greatly beloved by all sects and parties, and at his death in 1862, Dissenters and Churchmen vied with each other in shewing respect for his memory. He wrote and published several small things, but nothing of any moment, unless it be some musical compositions attributed to his pen.

COTTON, JOHN, a Cheshire man, and connected with the Combermere family of that name, was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where in 1705 he became A.B., and in 1709 A.M. He appears to have been made Vicar of Meole Brace in 1709, and Rector of Hanwood in 1716, which last benefice he resigned in 1734 on being appointed to St. Alkmonds, Shrewsbury. He died in 1757. Three or four small works are attributed to him but upon no reliable authority.

COTTON, NATHANIEL, whose poetic works were published in 1791, was born in Shropshire, and was a member of the Bellaport family of that name. He was brought up to the medical profession, and settled at St. Alban's in Hertfordshire as a physician. He published several works between 1751 and the year of his death, which occurred in 1788. We give him to Shropshire, because others have done so, but he is claimed by Derbyshire and another county, in both instances, however, upon questionable authority.

COTTON, RICHARD, son of George Cotton by Mary Ongley, was the first of the Combermere family born in Cheshire. The date of his birth has been put down 1535, but it is not certain as to when he succeeded to his inheritance. He was head of Combermere in 1563, for a stone tablet was found in the Abbey in 1795 with this inscription upon it:—

Master Richard Cotton and his sons three,
Toth for their pleasure and commoditie,
This building did edifie
In fifteen hundred and sixty-three.

His "three sons" were begotten out of Mary Mainwaring, and thus we may look upon them one and all as a thorough established Cheshire race.

COTTON, ROBERT, who in 1677 was created a baronet was born at Combermere, in Cheshire. He married Elizabeth Salusbury, the heiress of Llewenni, in Denbighshire, and

so acquired the vast possessions in that county belonging to her family, and which on the death of her brother had come to her. He was a very fine character, and thoroughly loyal; but strange to relate he was committed to the tower in 1685, for a supposed conspiracy against James the 2nd. There does not appear to be any sound reason for this proceeding, unless it be his well-known attachment to the Protestant interest, and his intimacy with the Princess Sophia. He died in 1712. To evince his attachment to his wife's family, he directed by his will that his remains should be buried in the Salusbury vault, in Denbighshire, and his successors have put up a great ugly monument to his memory at Whitechurch, near Denbigh, upon which they have set forth his own and his wife's excellencies in very fulsome language.

COTTON, ROBERT SALUSBURY, great grandson of the last-named, was born at Combermere, and died in 1799, in the life time of his father. He was the eldest brother of Stapleton Cotton, afterwards Viscount Combermere (born at Lleweni). No two brothers could have been more dissimilar in their tastes; the latter being a bold, dashing soldier, the former a quiet, thoughtful, and retiring young man, who possessed a taste for books and antiquarian researches. His mother, Frances Stapleton, of Bodrhyddan, was passionately fond of Lleweni, and there her eldest son spent most of his time, endearing himself to the simple-minded tenantry by the interest he took in their affairs, and the desire he evinced to acquire a knowledge of their language. He did master it thoroughly, and found pleasurable enjoyment in the perusal of the fine collection of Welsh literature and manuscripts that had been formed by the Salusburies at Lleweni. His death was greatly lamented by the Welsh especially, for they had hoped to find in him a fitting representative of his Cambrian ancestors, who in their time had been foremost in every one of those national movements, which continue to be so dear to the Welsh people.

COTTON, SIR ROWLAND, "the renowned knight of Bellaport, in Shropshire," must have been an exceedingly eminent and much-beloved personage, if we are to credit all that is said in his honour in a small quarto volume, published in 1635, entitled, "*Parentalia Spectatorium Rolando Cottono Equiti Aureto Salopiensi.*" It is quite a monument, enriched with garlands, composed of Latin and English verses bewailing his death. Will Strode exclaims:—

More Cottons yet? O let not envious Fate
Attempt the ruin of our growing State,
O had it spared Sir Rowland then might wee
Have almost spar'd Sir Robert's Library,
His life and th' other bookes taught but the same;
Death kils us twice in blotting twice our name,
Give Him, and take these reliques with consent—
Sir Rowland was a living monument.

COTTON, THOMAS, born in Cheshire, son of Thomas Cotton, of Cotton, in that county, was charged at Chester in 1642, with high treason, for having been "seduced by the instigation of the Devil, utterly withdrawing the love, as also the true affection and obedience, which a true and faithful subject of our Lord Charles now King of England," should have had to his Majesty, his offence being that he had led some troops at Nantwich in that year against the King. He does not appear to have come to grief on this occasion, for in 1659 he was with Sir George Booth in the "Cheshire rising" of that year, and was taken prisoner upon the defeat of his leader.

COTTON, WILLIAM, a native of Shropshire, was educated at Westminster School, and in 1710 elected

thence to St. John's, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1713, M.A. 1717. Bishop Cotton singularly enough passes him over with the remark, "A fine scholar." He was more than that—a fine, generous, and brave man. Passionately fond of antiquarian researches, he had collected a vast number of old manuscripts, but they were all scattered at his death, to the loss of his posterity, if, as is said, "They contained a complete list of the Cottons of Derby, Salop, and Chester," with his own notes upon the descents of each branch from a common ancestor.

COWDRAY, WILLIAM, who in 1789 published "*The Directory and Guide for the City and County of Chester*," was a native of that city, born there in 1751. He settled at Manchester, and about 1795 commenced the *Manchester Gazette* newspaper. A good and ready writer he attained to a respectable position in society. His company was courted by all classes, for he had acquired the peculiar art of not allowing politics to interfere with friendship, a quality sadly wanting in our own day, when, unless a man agrees with his neighbour upon every question, he runs the serious risk of being accounted "a heathen man and a publican,"! Mr. Cowdray died in 1814.

COWNLEY, JOSEPH, born at Leominster, Herefordshire, in the year 1723, is one of the many Englishmen who was brought under religious influences through the preaching of the Rev. John Wesley. In 1746 Mr. Wesley set him apart for the work of the ministry, and he afterwards laboured with great acceptance and usefulness in many parts of England and Ireland. We meet with him subsequently in charge of the Orphan House at Newcastle-on-Tyne, superintending the societies at Edinburgh and Glasgow, and preaching to crowds of people all over the country. Mr. Wesley used to say of him, "He is one of the very best preachers in England." Thus he laboured for six and forty years, until the 8th of October, 1792, when

Death broke at once the mortal chain,
And forced the soul the nearest way—

to heaven. Good men carried him to his grave, and made great lamentation over his remains, for a father in Israel had been removed hence.

COWNTON, HENRY. This gentleman was born near Chepstow, in Monmouthshire, about the middle of the sixteenth century. He was a Romanist of the strictest sort, and pondered over the ecclesiastical changes which were being worked out in England with anything but satisfaction. He might have said with truth—

So much I feel my genial spirits droop,
My hopes all flat, nature within me seems
In all her functions weary of herself.

The event which gave most pain to the Romanists of Cownton's time, must have been the execution of Mary Queen of Scots in 1587. It is folly to pretend that any great body of the English Catholics favoured Babington's conspiracy, but Elizabeth thought otherwise, and hence many of the faithful left this country and settled abroad. Cownton was of the number, he lived for many years in France, and died there, it is supposed, in 1606. "A good Catholic, but a thorough Englishman," hoping doubtless that his countryman would one day return to the bosom of the Church. Peace to his manes, for he meant well, and this reflection should suffice to secure for his memory the tender regard of his race.

COWPER, JOHN, fourth son of Thomas Cowper, who was Mayor of Chester in 1641, was born in that city in 1633, and having been sent to Oxford for his education

he took his degree of B.D., and became fellow of Brasenose College. His family had been more or less distinguished as scholars, but it is said this gentleman excelled them all, and that he was moreover a very admirable writer and antiquary. He died in 1676.

COWPER, MATTHEW, son of Thomas Cowper, of Chester, a merchant of some distinction there, was born in that city, and is mentioned in the local annals as a gentleman who took a very active part in the defence of his native city during the siege in 1644. His courage far exceeded his prudence, and having pushed his forces too near the enemy he was wounded, and very soon afterwards died, to the no small sorrow of his fellow townsmen, who looked up to him for guidance.

COWPER, THOMAS, brother to the last named, was equally ardent in the royal cause, and having been Mayor of his native city in 1641, he was looked up to with respect, his example being followed by many, who, unlike himself, did not approve of the king's measures, and yet supported the Crown. Charles was so pleased with this gentleman's loyalty that he granted him as a mark of his favour, the armorial coat (composed of the bearings of the ancient Earls of Chester), which has since been used by his descendants. He died in 1671.

COWPER, THOMAS, the eldest son of Thomas Cowper, of Netherleigh Hall, Chester, and grandson of the last named, was born there in 1670. In the year 1697 he was chosen to represent his native city in Parliament, and his conduct in that capacity was quite in harmony with the high character that both he and his ancestors had gained for themselves as men of a noble and patriotic spirit. "Fide et fortitudine" had been the motto of his house, and he was faithful and firm in the support he gave to all measures which in his opinion promised to add to the honour of his country, and to the peace and welfare of the people. He died in 1718.

CRADOCK, WALTER, was born at Trevela, in Monmouthshire, and educated at Oxford. Having been ordained, he served as curate at Cardiff and Wrexham, from whence he removed to Llanvair Waterdine, in the county of Salop. In 1634 he succeeded his friend, Mr. Wroth, as rector of Llanvaches, where he remained till 1646, when he went to serve the Church of All Hallows, in London. He is admitted to be one of the finest preachers of his age, and a zealous promoter of religion. His sermons are collected and published under the respective dates of 1646, 1648, 1650, 1651, and in the year 1800 Mr. Charles, of Bala, published an 8vo volume containing his works, with some account of his life. He died in 1659.

CRANE, THOMAS, was born at Chester in 1808, and having shown when a boy a decided predelection for art he was by the kindness of a friend sent to the schools of the Royal Academy for his education, where in 1825 he gained the medal for his drawings in the antique. Returning to Chester he commenced his career as a portrait painter, and very soon acquired celebrity in his profession. In 1832 he began to exhibit his pictures, many of them being excellent specimens of his art, and some of his best studies were exhibited at the Royal Academy. He died in London, 1859.

CRESSETT, EDWARD, son of Edward Cressett, of Counde, in Salop, having become a clergyman, and married Frances Pelham, daughter of Thomas Pelham, of Cottesfields, in Sussex, was by the interest of his wife's relation, the Duke of Newcastle, made Dean of Hereford, and Bishop of Llandaff, he had an only daughter Elizabeth, who, dying in 1792, was succeeded in her estates by her

kinsman, Henry Pelham, and his son, John Cressett Pelham, inherited the manors of Counde and Upton Cressett, and secured thereby a seat in Parliament for Shrewsbury.

CRESSETT, JAMES, A.M., rector of Andover in Shropshire, was a native of that county, and has the reputation of being both a learned and pious man. When his friend Dr. Baldwin resigned his Welsh living of Llandrillo in Rhos, Bishop Griffith in 1660 presented him to that rectory, in consideration it is stated in a document "of his great learning and eminent piety," but we can hardly believe that his learning could be of much service to his very Welsh parishioners, and it is somewhat remarkable that a Welsh speaking Bishop should have overlooked that one disqualification when giving away this particular cure of souls to an Englishman. He died in 1684.

CRESWELL, RICHARD, son of Richard Sidbury, in the county of Salop, was born there and is known to have been a high Tory, and a warm supporter of Sacheverell, when that silly man passed through the county. He was Sheriff of Shropshire in 1711, and probably the member for Bridgnorth, to whom a poem entitled, "The old wives tales," published 1712, was dedicated, and in which the following testimony to his worth is recorded, "Would every man like Mr. Creswell have laid to heart the good of his country, we should not have seen the dismal effects of one man's avarice, I mean a long and expensive war, nor would our children to a third and fourth generation, have been taxed to aggrandise one family."

CREWE, CHARLES, third son of Randal and Anne Crewe, and grandson to John Offley of Crewe who had changed his surname to the ancient one borne by his ancestors of Crewe Hall, must be mentioned as one of the old clergy-squires, who lived a moral life for the good of his soul, and rode to hounds in honour of his blood. He was rector of Warmincham and Barthomley, being appointed to the latter living in 1762, and there he remained till his death in 1795. "His official duties were confined to the reading of the prayers at church, and one sermon on the Sunday, with occasional private baptisms, marriages and burials. He kept a small pack of harriers, the delight of the neighbourhood," and thus in a somewhat formal fashion he kept himself abreast of Church and State. According to his lights he was a good, harmless, kind, and charitable man, and no doubt esteemed himself pious, for he wrote and published in 1790 "An appeal to the reason of mankind" on behalf of Christianity; and in the same year "Animadversions on the late attempt of the Dissenters to obtain a repeal of the Test Act." We need not dive far into either of these works without finding how poor a service he could render to Christianity or the Church by his pen, but the two essays convince us that under the covering of a strictly moral life this worthy man cherished a warm affection for religion—a very innocent reverence for its principles and a consuming zeal for the Church of his fathers, "the foundation and bulwark of our liberties." Peace to his manes, for he was but a child of larger growth, and meant to do well.

CREWE, JOHN, of Utlington, in the county of Chester, grandson of Sir Randle Crewe, Lord Chief Justice of England, was a very worthy and excellent person. A sterling Protestant in religion he had no sympathy for such of his countrymen who favoured Popery, but he was charitable to all who dissented from the Church of England, and objected altogether to persecutions in matters of faith. He was a great supporter of the Revolution, and a stout adherent to the Orange interest. To this day is the

name of John Crewe revered in his county, and he is often referred to as a pattern of what a Christian gentleman should be. He died in 1711, aged 71 years.

CREWE, JOSEPH, a Cheshire man, and one of the Aldermen of Chester, by his will dated 1799, and a codicil dated 1800, gave to the Mayor and citizens a sum of money for the maintenance of aged Aldermen and widows, in quarterly payments for ever. He died in 1800, and his portrait has been placed among other Chester worthies in the Town Hall of that city. Some of the portraits are mere daubs, others fair works of art, but they have one and all a history of their own, and in most instances a history to be remembered by the poor and needy, who for generations many have had sufficient reason to cherish the memory of the originals represented by them.

CROFT, SIR ARCHER, a native of Croft Castle in Herefordshire, is a gentleman of some local renown as having in 1721 and 1722, fought a severe contest with Sir George Caswell, cashier of the South Sea Company, for the representation of Leominster in Parliament. The poll being closed, the bailiff proposed to adjourn to an inn for the purpose of making up his return. Sir Archer would have none of this, and drawing his sword, swore that he would run him through unless he made up the return upon the spot. A tumult ensued, blood was spilt, and the returning officer, who was partial to Sir George (who was first seated but afterwards expelled from Parliament) would no doubt have been murdered had he not managed to escape during the row.

CROFT, SIR BERNARD, a native of Herefordshire, was residing at Croft Castle at the time when William of Normandy invaded England. He was the representative of an ancient Saxon race, and gave his powerful support to Harold. The result of the battle of Hastings, was fatal to his worldly greatness, and it is stated the conqueror deprived him of his estates, and sent him to exile. The tradition is, that he entered a Benedictine Monastery at Douay, where he spent the remainder of his life in religious exercises, and some writers have affirmed that a monument was put up to his memory in the Church of the brethren in that fine old place.

CROFT, HERBERT, son of Sir Herbert Croft, of Croft Castle, in Herefordshire, was born at that seat of his family. His father having gone over to the Church of Rome he was brought up in that religion, but under the guidance of Bishop Martin, he became a Protestant, and then a clergyman. In 1644 he was installed Dean of Hereford. In 1661 Bishop of the same, and for thirty years he filled that high office with credit and honour. He died in 1691, and is buried in the cathedral of that city.

CROFT, SIR JAMES, a Herefordshire man, of Croft Castle, in that county. His life is a remarkable instance how men can overcome difficulties, and turn almost every possible event to good account. He filled the office of Lord Deputy of Ireland in Edward the Sixth's reign; in that of Mary he was tried and condemned for his participation in the Wyatt rebellion, but obtained the Queen's forgiveness. In 1557 he was made a member of the Council for the North, and afterwards Controller of Queen Elizabeth's Household. We find him after that sitting as a judge at the trial of Mary, Queen of Scots, and later still, in finding how many moneys forfeited to the Crown had been "concealed, detained, or witholden." He was a creature of the Earl of Leicester, and worked out all his bad designs, doubtless finding it profitable to do so, for he is known to have added to his wealth and consequence by the services he rendered to that great man.

CROFT, JAMES, born at Croft Castle, Herefordshire, was sent to Westminster School for his education, and in 1617 he was removed thence by election to Christ Church, Oxford. He suffered much for his loyalty to Charles the First, in whose army he held the rank of colonel. He was knighted "for his stout and faithful service." A copy of verses which he contributed to "Innebria Sacri" on the death of Queen Anne in 1619, prove that he was as ready with his pen as with his sword.

CROFT, JOHN DE, had succeeded in lineal descent from Bernard de Croft, who is mentioned in Domesday-Book, was born at Croft, in Herefordshire, and occupied a very distinguished position under the Crown in the early part of the fifteenth century. He was engaged in foreign negotiations on behalf of England so early as 1402, and was further entrusted with the captaincy of Merk Castle, near Calais, and we may suppose therefore a trusted public servant. It is remarkable however that he married Janet the daughter of the celebrated Welsh chieftain Owen Glendower, and it has been stated that he was actively engaged in the rebellion against Henry the fourth, but seeing that he was neither attainted for that crime, nor disturbed in any way, it is more than probable that he managed to keep himself clear of his father in law's schemes and wisely allowed the two active parties to that quarrel to settle their own affairs. His father had been justice of assize, and his grand father or great grand father had sat for Herefordshire in one of Edward the first's Parliaments.

CROFT, RICHARD, grandson of the last-named, and a native of Herefordshire, was present at the battle of Tewkesbury in 1471, and captured with his own hand Prince Edward, son of Henry the Sixth. He was a good soldier, and altogether a person of influence in his county, and in England. Henry the Seventh appointed him treasurer to his household, and for his conduct at the battle of Stoke, in 1487, he was made a knight-bananaet on the field. We are able, therefore, to see the side he took in the serious conflicts of these times, for Harry of Richmond did not honour those whom he trusted not, nor did he ever trust many who had been backward in proclaiming their adhesion to his cause.

CROFT, SIR WILLIAM, eldest son of Sir Herbert Croft, was born at the family seat in Herefordshire. Unlike his father, he remained true to the Protestant faith, but he did not favour the Puritans. He deplored the troubles brought upon the country by the two factions, and it is supposed that this feeling hastened his death. Dean Croft was his brother, and upon his decease he succeeded to his estates.

CROFT, SIR WILLIAM, a native of Herefordshire, "the best head-piece and activest man in that county," was slain at Stokeney Castle in 1641 (as some say in 1645) when fighting for the king. In the published accounts of the Civil Wars it is said "His Majesty's forces encountered a body of the rebels near Stoke-ley, in Shropshire, but, being overpowered, were forced to retreat with the loss of Sir William Croft, a gallant gentleman."

CROMWELL, THOMAS, born at Shrewsbury, 1596, son of Gregory Cromwell. Blakeway believes that this gentleman descended from Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, whose historical name, and great misfortunes will ever be held in remembrance by the English people, but how he came to be of Shrewsbury is not very clear for in 1604 the branch from which he descended appear to have been settled in Rutlandshire, nor does it transpire what became of him, so that his name and his ancient associations alone must be his passports to this place.

CROXTON, THOMAS, who was Governor of Chester Castle during the Civil War, was of Ravenscroft, in Cheshire, and colonel of a regiment raised within the hundreds of Nantwich and Northwich. He is reputed to have been possessed of great gallantry, and we may accept that statement as true, for, upon being summoned to surrender the Castle to the Royalists, he replied "that as perfidiousness was always detestable, so the Castle, which he held for the Parliament of England was disputable; and if they would have it they must fight for it, for the best blood that ran in his veins should be as a sluice in defence thereof, and to fill up the Castle trenches." These brave words, seconded as they were by the known reputation of the gallant soldier, sufficed to drive the Royalists away; and soon afterwards one division of the army was defeated at Winnington, and another on Prees-heath. A younger branch of the Croxton family has been long settled at Oswestry, but the name is indifferently spelt Croxton, Croxon, and Croxen.

CULM, BENJAMIN, a native of Chester, and at one time minister of St. Olave's, in that city, by his will, dated in 1714, did leave a sum of money, the interest upon which was to be applied to the apprenticeship of poor children to some trade. There was a proviso attached to this benefaction, that no children whose parents had obtained parochial relief should benefit under it, and this practically destroyed the value of the gift, for owing to the condition of the inhabitants of that particular district (St. Olave's parish) there was hardly a family who could qualify for its provisions.

CURETON, CHARLES ROBERT, born at Hordley, Salop, about the end of the last century; he very early in life evinced his love for the military profession. He was an ensign in the militia at sixteen, and rose to be lieutenant, but his extravagant habits compelled him to leave that branch of the service, and we next meet with him in a dragoon regiment, to which he had enlisted under the assumed name of Charles Roberts. He proceeded to the Peninsula in 1808, where he displayed great gallantry, and was severely wounded on several occasions. In 1814 he was promoted to an ensigncy, without purchase, and was afterwards sent out to India, serving there in 1825-6 at the siege of Burtpore, under Lord Combermere, at which time he was a captain. In 1839-40 he served in Afghanistan as Assistant-General of Cavalry. In 1845 he was serving in the Sikh war as Lieut.-Col., and for his brave services there he obtained the rank of Colonel, was made a C.B., and had other honours conferred upon him. He accompanied Lord Gough to the Punjab in 1848 as Brigadier General, and at the battle of Ramunagar "he met an honourable death at the head of the very regiment in which he commenced his life as a soldier." His honoured name is commemorated upon a monument in St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, executed by Westinacott.

CURETON, WILLIAM, born in 1808, at Westbury, Salop, will ever remain known to the learned as a distinguished scholar. He was educated at Newport Grammar School, and at Christ Church, Oxford. In 1830 he proceeded to his B.A. degree, and in 1831 to that of M.A., and three years afterwards he was appointed librarian at the Bodleian, and in 1837 assistant keeper of manuscripts in the British Museum. He was one of the select preachers of the university of Oxford nominated in 1840; in 1847 chaplain in ordinary to the Queen; and in 1849 a canon of Westminster and rector of St. Margaret's. None of these honours were heedlessly conferred upon him; his vast learning and studious assiduity entitled him to them all. When, in 1858, he gained his B.D. and D.D. degrees, his name was known everywhere, for he was a fellow of several learned societies, a prolific writer, and an acknowledged scholar. He died at Westbury in 1864, and was buried at Alberbury in his native county.

JANUARY 15, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Dec. 11, 1878).

xx'o die Octob'r Ao 2 yere R. R. Edward vj.
Md. thes are the names of the vj men elle'd & named
for thes y'e/r/

David ap Thomas lloyd gent.
Richard Blakwell Drap'r
John Ward
Richard ap Mered ap Will'm
Thomas Whittaker
Richard ap Robert

Md. this day it is agreed by all the burges that the
Baylifs fees shalbe xls apece yerely from henseforth
forev'r/

Memorand'm that the xxxth daie of October Ano
R. R. Elizabeth xxiiijth 1582.

At w'h daye hugh yale and Richard Stanley gentlemen
have Received and had of thomas Evanse and Richard
wy's gent latt Ballyffes of Oswestre of the Charters
p'tinge to the said town in numb'r tenne with other
letters and mynymnts in two boxes w'th the towne
sealle, a yron yard and half elne of the same w'th two
p'rs of boules and two ho'locks and a broken bell.

hugh yale bailiff.
Rychard Stanley
bailiffe.

The xjth daie of October 1583.

The w'h daie Richyard lloid and William Goughe gen'ti
have resevyd of hugh yale and Richard Stanley gent
late Bailiffs of Oswestre of the charters ap'rtaynyng to
the towne in nomb'r tenne w'th other l'res & mynymnts in
two boxes together with the towne Seale: and also an
ell of yron & two pair of Boules & two lockes &
also recevyd a bell late beinge in the m'kett house R'sd
a shackle.

Rich Lloyd
Wyllym Goughe

Md. the xvjth day of October 1584 the w'h day Roger
Staney and Richard Cowp'r gent. nowe bailiffs of
Oswestre have receaved of Richard lloid and Will'm
Goughe gent. late bailiffs of Oswester aforesaid of the
Charters app'rteyning to the said towne in number tenne
w'th other l'res and mynymnts in two boxes together w'th
the towne seale and half an ell of yron, two paiar of
bowls, one yron yarde, and yron chayne, one bundle of
scrowles.

[not signed]

Apud Oswestri viij., die maij 1586 Ano R. R.
Eliz. xxviij.

W'ch said day Richard wylliams and Thomas Kynaston
gent Bailiffs of the towne of Oswester have Received of
Roger Staney and Richard Cowp'r gent. late bailiffs the
Charters of the Towne the number of x, the yron yard, the
yron half-elle, & the yron seales for burgesses, & peck &
the yard / And be it nowe knowne y't Ric. Cowp'r, gent:
one of the said late bailiffs of the said towne this day
sybscryb'd in the presence of us the said nowe Bailiffs &
of us the other p'rs on undernamed y't he personally hath
in his keeping the book of constitucon law made for the
said towne w'th the c'nsent of the ryght honorable the
Earle of Arundell & the copy of the dec'ron taken
in the high c'trt of Starr Chambre, w'ch doth ratify the
same / And being required to d'ly'r these to the said
bailiffs refus'd so to do / sainge for answering his resyn,

yt he disbursed some money for the prysoners of this towne, & y't he detayneth & will detayn the same till he be paid thereof.

Rich will'ms }
Tho kynaston } Bailiffs.
Th. Evance
John Edwards
Hugh yale
Rychard Stanley
Edd. Edwards
Robert Edwards
Richard Gittins.

MUNICIPAL HONOURS.—Mr. Blakeway in his wonderfully well written *History of Shrewsbury* has the following curious letter on page 251 of vol. 1 :—

To our trusty and wel beloved the Baillifs and Burgesses of our Towne of Shrewsbury and to everich of them. BY THE KING
[Edward the Fourth.]

Trusty and welbelovyd we grete you well, and for soo much as we understand that the Election of the Baillifs of our Towne of Shrewsbury wol be in brief tyme, we desiring the good Governance, politike rule, and encrease of our said Towne, for the true Service tht ye heretofore have doon and borne unto us in sundry wyse to our great pleasure, require you tht ye elect and chese such two Personnes unto the same office, of such vertuous life, habilitie, good name, and Fame, as been merchants and crafty men dwelling within our said Towne, and in no wise to electe or admitte unto the same any forene or foreins or such as bee noo merchants, nor crafty men without failling, as ye entend to pleas us, and to eschue their conveniences tht of the contrary may ensue. Geven under our signet at our Citee of London the xxiii day of Septembr.

Mr. Blakeway says that "Roger Eyton, a gentleman by birth, had frequently been bailiff in the reign of Henry VI., and had rendered his official situation subservient to his views in favour of the House of York," and it seems therefore all the more remarkable that *Edward of York*, should write in these terms under the circumstances. Four hundred years have passed and gone since that document was penned, and of late the Municipal Reform Act has opened the door wide enough for the admission of all sorts and conditions of men into the coveted offices of Chief Beaks. Are we much better off now than the Salopians were in Henry VI. reign? "Fitte men of vertuous life," be they gentle or simple, have ample scope now-a-days to practice the virtues of wisdom, economy, and prudence, and yet from all sides we hear of a foolish expenditure of public money, and anything but a "politique rule" of local affairs. YORK'S GHOST.

OSWESTRY WEATHER SIGNS.—When you see the Jackdaws settle on the weathercock at the top of the old Church tower, you may make sure the weather will be wet. When the front of the Town Hall [i.e. Powis Hall] on the Bailey Head deepens in colour rain will follow. OLD FOGIE.

[Before the building on the Bailey Head was converted into "The Powis Hall" it consisted of two storeys; the upper one a room the whole length, used for Quarter Sessions, Town Hall, and, at one time, Girls' National School. The lower portion was divided, the greater part forming the house and shop of Mr. James Jones, who had been a local agent for Lord Powis. Between the upper windows, about the centre, were painted the words "Jones, Glass and China Warehouse." The ravages of time caused this sign to fade, but on the approach of wet weather the letters stood out as if fresh painted. To this day those who know where to look for them can detect some of the characters. Ed.]

MRS. SIDDONS AND THE KEMBLE.—In a book entitled "Extraordinary Women, their Girlhood and Early Life," by William Russell, Esq., author of "Extraordinary Men," London, Routledge, 1857, it is stated that Mrs. Kemble, wife of Roger Kemble, and

both members of a company of strolling players, gave birth to her first-born child, Sarah Kemble, on the 5th July, 1755, at the Shoulder of Mutton public house, Brecon, South Wales. Roger Kemble, the father of the child, afterwards Mrs. Siddons, a good man but bad actor, was blessed with an unequalled placidity of temper, loved his pipe and quiet ways generally, and had more of the appearance of a clerical dignitary than a profane player—characteristics which he might have inherited, with his religion, from his great grand-uncle, the Rev. Roger Kemble, a Catholic priest, who was hanged in his eightieth year, in a field adjoining his native city of Hereford, under pretence of complicity in Titus Oates' "plaat." He was the last man, or last but one, who suffered capitally in England for conscience' sake; and so resignedly, calmly did he suffer, that he smoked his pipe on the way to execution, only putting it from his lips at the last moment to say that he knew nothing about the plot—did not believe there was a plot; and that he was really hanged for belonging to the old religion of the country. His nephew, Captain Kemble, who had fought gallantly for King Charles II., obtained, in reward of his loyalty, one of his relative's hands—the remainder of his body being burnt to ashes (?)—which is still preserved as a sacred relic in the Catholic Chapel at Worcester. Kemble's pipe was long a cant phrase in Hereford for the last social pipe smoked in convivial society. The property of the Kembles had been lost or squandered away during the Civil Wars. It had been arranged on the marriage of the parents of Mrs. Siddons that the children of the marriage should be brought up, the sons in the religion of their father, Roger Kemble, and the daughters in that of their mother, which accounts for the circumstance of Sarah being educated as a member of the Church of England as by law established. H.W.L.

QUERIES.

TANKARD HALL.—There is a small farm at Marton, about three miles south of Oswestry, known by the singular name of Tankard Hall. Can any one say when and by whom the name was given, and what suggested such a name? J.J.

THE NEWTOWN LOVERS.—Old Mr. Hulbert, who prosed away in many books the impressions of his travels, so overflowed with sentiment in his *History of Shropshire* that he narrated in it some "affecting reminiscences" of two lovers at Newtown, in Montgomeryshire, whose "humble graves" he saw in the churchyard of that place. I am not given to be sentimental myself so will narrate the story he tells very briefly. The course of true love not running smoothly with Richard Owen and Jane Lewis, since they could not live together they determined at least to die together, and, accordingly took poison. At the last extremity Richard told of what they had done, and remedies were applied, but too late. Of course there was a monster funeral, and Mr. Hulbert, in 1835, saw "a small arborial decoration" (whatever that may have been) over the head of their grave. The pair died in 1815. Is the grave still pointed out as an "object" in Newtown, and have the "oldest inhabitants" anything to say on the circumstances attending the sad fate of the couple? G.G.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT, 1567. (Jan. 1, 1879).—I ought to have assumed, when sending you my list of the copies of this scarce book known to me, that my friend, Mr. E. G. Salisbury, would have a copy

of the work of his great name-sake in his fine collection of Welsh books which I have not had the good fortune to see. I am right glad to hear he has so good an impression. The collation he gives shows it is perfect, and that it has one leaf not in mine, viz., the one headed "This famous Amethyst Stone." The five pages of errata, &c., which are in mine, and in no other copy I have seen or heard of, begin with the heading, "Y Beia y ddiangasant yn y print ac a ddeir ei correctio val hynt." Then follow three pages of closely-printed Errata (e.i.) (eij.) The fourth page is headed "The Faults escaped in the Preface to the Quenes Mailestie," and the first correction which follows is "For Prince ye may reade Princesse;" and after some further corrections another heading on the same page "A pologi neu Atep am y Beia y mae 'rei yn cael yn Epistol Episcop Menew" which is followed by large-type corrections down to the middle of the 5th page when another heading occurs. "Y Beia a ddygywyddawdd yn print Llythyr-anerch W.S." and 3 lines of corrections. On the back of this 5th page is printed the "Gwyddoræ o amraval," which is, I think, in some of the other copies, though Mr. Salisbury does not mention it in his collation. I wish I could comply with his request and give the exact number of leaves &c., in all the copies I have named, but I did not take sufficiently exact notes of these particulars to be quite sure. The corrections in my copy are so important to Welsh philology, as distinguishing between the genuine archaic forms of expression and mere printers' errors, that I propose some day, when I have leisure, to get these valuable and, I think I may say, unique pages printed and published for the benefit of my Welsh literary friends and collectors. Since my list appeared the Rev. J. E. Davies, Rector of Llangelnylin, Merionethshire, writes to me from Mentone to say he is the possessor of a copy "in good condition, and perfect with the exception of three or four chapters in the Epistle to the Romans." He also adds that he has "a copy of Bp. Morgan's Welsh Bible in imperfect, but fair condition." E.B.

JANUARY 22, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Jan. 15, 1879).

The p'rsns undernamed were sworne burgess of Oswestre the vijth and ixth daye of June 1582.

Richard Cowp'r for him & his children
 Roger ap Edward for him & his children
 W'm ap ho'll ap m'red for him self and somme of his
 sonnes viz John, Hugh, Edward, & Roger.
 Thomas ap Rees baker & his children
 James W'ms shomaker for him & his children
 Edward Jones for him & his children
 Richard ap Thomas were for the like
 Robert ap Edward glov'r for the like
 Elice glover for the like
 John Edwards Corviser for ye like
 Will'm ap gruff Sherman for ye like
 Richard Mucleston, Scriven'r for the like. gratis
 Robert ap David shomaker for the like
 W'm ap Edd shomaker for the like
 Will'm heilyn for the like
 Ffrancis Myllington for the like
 John Kynaston of Chester m're'r for the like
 Nicholas M'dd [Qy Maredydd] for the like
 Moris ap M'rdd for himselfe & for Edward Moris and
 Hugh Morys m'reer his sonnes

Robert lloid of dayswell for himself & his children
 James Aloten for the like
 W'm Tomkyns for the like
 John ap Owen of Aston for the like
 Edward Gruff of Oswester taeler
 John the sonne of the p'rish of Myvod
 Thomas Trevor of Whittington
 Richard Trevor of newe m'rton
 Thomas Lee of Oswester
 John M'rredd de eadm
 Robert ap John glov'r
 Thomas ap John ab gor
 Rob't Vaughan butcher
 Hugh Edd ap Ho'll of Porkington
 Tudor lloid gratis
 Hugh M'rredd of Abertanatt deputy recorder
 Will'm ap Edward ap Richard of Bronygarth
 David ap Edward of Oswestre butcher for him self and }
 for Phillipp ap David his daughter's sonne } for the
 Owen ap John Goughe of Marton for himself & for his } like.
 three sonnes viz. John / Roger / and David
 George Jennyns of Whittington for him & his
 children
 Roger Bedowe of Royton tanner for the like
 John ap' Ho'll of welkie tann'r for ye like
 Edward ap John wever of Oswester for ye like
 Will'm ap Richard of Cromtywell for ye like
 John ap John weaver
 Th. Evance }
 Rich. Willms }
 then bayliffes.

[The place mentioned just above as Cromtywell is perhaps that now known as Crumpwell. In the Shropshire map given in Gibson's *Camden* this is called Cromwell.—Ed.]

HEREFORDSHIRE SOLDIERS IN THE IRISH WARS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

The following curious certificate and receipt, relating to the Herefordshire contingent, provided in 1597 to the army of Elizabeth in Ireland, occurs among the muni-ments and papers of the Corporation of Chester. The Roger Bodenham named in the certificate is the same whose stately house at Rotherwas, formed the subject of a former contribution to *Bye-gones*, Apr. 17, 1878.
 Com : Heref.

Apud Ciuitatem Heref' vicesimo sexto
 die Aprilis Anno R. R'ne Elizabeth
 nunc, &c., xxxix.

Memorand' that wee Roger Bodenham and Thomas Harley, esquires, depute Lieuten'nts of the Countie of Heref', have the said daie and yere appointed this bearer Capitaine francis Crofte, esquier, to conducte the number of fiftie sixe footemen, mustered and leueied w'thin this Countie of Heref', by vertue of her ma'ts l'res from her highenes, and the ll's of the Counsaile in that behalfe, vnto vs addressed, Whosenames are in the secdule indented annexed vnto the Cittie of Chester by the laste of this monethe there to be imbarked for herma'ts present service in Ireland, accordinge to direcc'on; as also have appointed the said Capitaine to receave the Coate and Conducte money there of such as are appointed to satisfie the same for this Countie, and to give an acquittance for paymente thereof. In witnes whereof, wee the said depute Lieuten'nts have to this warrant putt our hands and seales, the daie and yere above written.

ROGER BODENHAM.
 THO : HARLEY.

Received by me francis Crofte, esquier, conductor of fiftie sixe footemen Souldiers, Leyeied in the Countie of Hereford by sufficient Warrants vnder the handes and Seales of Roger Bodenham and Thomas Harley, esquires, Deputie Lieuten'nts of the same Countie of Hereford, bearing date the sixe and twentieth daye of Aprill laste paste, of Thomas Smith, esquier, Maior of the Citie of Chester, As well the some of eleven poundes foure shillings of Lawfull money of England, for the Coate money of the said souldiers at iiij.s. the Coate; As alsoe

the some of thirtene poundes, sixtene pence for one weekes wages for the Conducte of the said souldiers at viijd. p diem to a man; and alsoe the some of fourtie eight shillings for twelve dayes allowance vnto me the said Conducto'r at iijd p diem;—in all the some of twentie sixe poundes thirtene shillings foure pence of Lawfull money of England, Accordinge to the Dyrection of the Lo: Highe Thr'r of England to the said Maio'r dyrected. Off wch said twentie sixe poundes thirtene shillings foure pence, and of eu'y parte and p'cell thereof, I Doe acquite and discharge the said Thomas Smith, Maio'r, his executo'rs and Administrato'rs for eu', by these p'nts. Dated the third day of May, Anno R R'ne Elizabeth &c., tricesimo nono. o—xxvj lii xlii iijd.

ffra: Croft.

Sealed and deliue'd in the p'nce of these,
John Aston, Will'm Knight.

Under this same year, 1597, William Webb, one of the authors of the *Vale Royal*, 1656, incidentally refers to this levy of troops for the Irish wars, in the following terms:—"1,000 Footmen and 280 horsemen came at several times, and were sent into Ireland." Of these 1,000 Footmen it has been shown by the documents given above that 56 came from your neighbouring county of Hereford.

Chester.

T. HUGHES.

WESLEYAN METHODISM IN NEWTOWN.

—The following memorandum relating to the preachers and ministers of this denomination was made by me in the year 1847. The particulars were collected from persons best conversant with the history of Methodism in the town. Mem. No resident Wesleyan minister in Newtown until 1802. The place was a sort of mission station, and was visited by ministers who came over from South Wales. The first, whose name was Richard Rodda, came in 1765, was received by Mrs. Hancox, who lived at the Lower Bryn. He was succeeded by William Pitt, John Undrell, Thos. Cartill, George Mowatt, James Wood, John Moon, John Crickett, John Simmons, Cleland Kirkpatrick, John Wood, James Buckley, Edward Jennings, William Pearson, James Gill, Thomas Fearnby, James Scholefield, and Valentine Ward. In 1802, the town was made a circuit town. The first resident minister was William Hicks, who remained until 1804. The succeeding ministers were, Thos. Fenwick, 1805-6; John Sydsarf, 1807-1808; John Wood (second time), 1809-10; David Deakin, 1811-12; Joseph Armstrong, 1813-14; Hugh Carter, 1815-16; Edward Jones, 1817-18; David Rogers, 1819-20; Evan Parry, 1821-22; Thomas Graham, 1823-24; John Wood (third time), 1825-26; William Barr, 1827-28; Moses Dunn, 1829; William Hamer, 1830; Henry Tuck, 1831-32; Joseph Hollis, 1833; Christopher Newton, 1834-35; William Stokes, 1836-37; John Nicklin, 1838-39; Daniel Hatley, 1840; William Ricketts, 1841-43; Hugh Carter (second time), 1844-45; John Saunders, 1846-47. John Wesley visited Newtown in 1769, commenced service near the Old Town Hall,—was pulled down by a mob, and went to the Lower Bryn, where he finished his sermon. The first preaching place was a room in the Frolic, opened for the purpose in 1799. The first chapel was built in 1805; the second in 1821, and the third chapel in 1835.

T.W.H.

QUERIES.

LLANFYLLIN MEETING.—In a newspaper of 1803, I find the following advertisement:—"Llanfyllin Meeting commences on Monday, the 4th of July, 1803. Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., Mr. David Evans, Stewards." What was the Llanfyllin Meeting? O.P.Q.

SALOPIAN POETS.—Died on Jan. 1, 1816, the wife of Mr. William Townshend of Bridgnorth, butcher, she is said to have possessed an early taste for poetry, and previous to her marriage published a small volume of poems, chiefly pathetic. Was Mrs. T. a Salopian by

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birth, and did her talents justify her name being recorded amongst Mr. Salisbury's *Worthies*? I would also put a similar query in relation to Mr. Jonathan Brookes, who died in Shrewsbury at the age of 76, on Aug. 5, the same year. Mr. B. seems to have been a warlike poet, for the pieces he published commemorated the achievements of Lord Nelson, the wars in Portugal and Spain, and the battle of Waterloo.

SABRINA.

PUNISHMENT FOR SHORT MEASURE.—

It is recorded in the *Salopian Journal* of Sep. 14, 1803, that on the previous day "the keeper of a public house in Shrewsbury was fined by the Magistrates in the penalty of 13s. 4d. for keeping short measures in his house, it being the second offence." It was stated at the same time that a third offence rendered the offender "liable to a penalty of 20s. and to be set in the pillory." Were any publicans thus gibbeted?

SCROBBES BYRIG.

REPLIES.

EDWARD BURY OF BOLAS (Apr. 10, 1878).—

In my reply at this date I gave some incidents in the life of Mr. Bury, but omitted all mention of "Mr. Henry Osland of Bewdly," also enquired about on Mar. 13, by "J.P.E.," as having written an address "To the Reader" in a work by Bury dedicated to "Col. Thomas Hunt, Esquire, Governour of Shrewsbury" in the time of the Commonwealth. Your correspondent will find a very interesting notice of Mr. Osland, M.A., of Trin. Coll., Camb., in vol. 3, pp. 383-5 of Palmer's edition of Calamy's *Nonconformist Memorial*. Mr. O. was the ejected clergyman of Bewdley; was a friend of Mr. Bury's, and often preached, both before and after ejection, in Shropshire. Several interesting incidents are told of him in the sketch I refer to.

PURITAN.

A WELSH GREYNA GREEN (Nov. 27, 1878).—The Register referred to by my friend Mr. J. O. Halliwell as containing the entry quoted by "N. W. S." is that of Peter Roberts, Notary Public, and is better known as the *Cwtta Cyfarwydd*. It is now mine and I hope soon to publish it. The chapel mentioned in the extract as "Chappell Ffynnon Vair" was not necessarily a Greytna Green at all and it was probably because the word "clandestinely" was used that Mr. Halliwell inferred that the chapel was not duly licensed for marriages. But in this Register in the same year (1611) I find frequent entries of marriages at night "clandestinely" at Llanelwey, Rudland, and elsewhere:—the old notary adding to such entries the words "by report." E. B.

OLD FOLKS (Nov. 13, 1878).—Died at Cemmaes, in the parish of Llanhadrick, Anglesey, aged 105, Mary Zebulon. Also at Trawntwnydd (sic) co. Merioneth, aged 110, Edward Morgan, being, it is believed, the oldest inhabitant of Wales. This information I take from the *Gents. Mag.* for Mar. 1817, which must be responsible alike for facts and spelling.

ANON.

JANUARY 29, 1879.

NOTES.

MOEL VAMMA TOWER.—An account of the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Tower Lord Kenyon was the means of setting up on Moel Vamma—to commemorate the Jubilee of George III.—appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for Feb. 1811. In the report it is stated that the following coins and medals were placed in a vase and deposited under the first stone:—

A Guinea of George III.

A Half-Guinea after the Union with Ireland.

A gilt Medal of his Majesty, on his completing the 50th year of his reign, with the motto, "We Praise thee, O God."

A white Medal of his Majesty on the same occasion, expressing also the Union with Ireland, and the universal joy of the nation.

A bronze Medal of his Majesty; the reverse alluding to the Victories of the War, especially Lord Nelson's glorious Victory of the Nile, 1798.

A bronze Medal of his Majesty, on his preservation from an assassin in 1800.

A bronze Medal on the Union with Ireland, in Jan. 1801.

A bronze Medal on the Peace, 1802.

A bronze Medal of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

A bronze Medal of Earl Howe, on his glorious Victory, 4th June, 1794.

A bronze Medal of Marquis Cornwallis, on receiving Tippoo Sultan's Sons as Hostages, in 1792.

A bronze Medal of Lord Nelson, from the Statue erected at Birmingham to his glorious memory.

The foundation stone was laid by Lord Kenyon, amidst a large concourse of people. G.G.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Jan. 22, 1879.)

M'd. that John ap Edward glov'r was made burgesse w'th them aforesaid and sworne the xviiijth day of October in the fyve and twentieth yere of the raigne of Elizabeth. by Richard lloid and William Goughe bayliffes that same yere of the said towne and by the whole assent of the whole burgesse.

Rich lloyd

Wyllm Goughe

then bayliffes

M'd. that Phillipp lloid of Hardwyck gent. was made burgesse w'th them aforesaid and sworne the xxviiijth day of October in the fyve and twentieth yere of the raigne of Elizabeth by Richard lloid and William Goughe bayliffes that same yere of the said towne and by the whole assent of the comon counsaill of the said towne.

M'd. That Thomas Ward of Baschurch was sworne and made burgesse the second daye of Marche 1584 and in the xxviiijth yere of the raigne of o'r Soverayne ladye quene Elizabeth by Roger Staney and Rich Jones then bailiffs and by the co'sent of the comon counsell or the most p'rte of them

Roger Staney

Rich Jones

} Bailiffes

M'd. That John Atkinson and all his children of Deuthor in the countie of Montgomery Tanner was sworne and made Burgesse the fiftenth daye of October in the yeeere of the Raigne of o'r Sov'raigne lady Elizabeth the seven and twentieth by Rondell lloyd and Gruffith Kyffin gent Bailiffs then prs. by the consent of the whole Burgesse

Randulph lloyd

Gryff Kyffin

M'd. that William Oliver of the Township of Wikye in the prishe of Riton in the countye of Salop husbandman and all his children was sworne and made burgesse the day and yeeere above written by Randolph lloid and Gruffith Kyffin gent Bailiffs then

Randulph lloyd

Gryff. Kyff.

M'd. That Edward ap Thomas al's Ger'e (and his Children) Rees Meredith Butcher John Rogers of Weston Reignalde Evance Drap'r were sworne and made Burgesse the daye and yeeere above saide, togeth'r with their children lawfully begotten.

Randulph Lloyd

Gryff: Kyff'n

M'd. that Mr. William Mores the younger was sworne and made Burgesse the x daie and yeeere afore said by Randulph Lloyd and Gruffith Kyffin gent, then Bailiffs, and the Burgesse of the said towne

Randulph lloyd

Gryff. Kyffin.

M'd. that Mr. Edward Thomas of Melverley in the Countie of Salop 'gent & his children were ellected and chosen by the consent of the Bailiffs and the whole Burgesse the xxviiijth day of October 1585 was upon that day sworne by Randolph lloid and Gruf Kyffin gent Bailiffs

Randulph lloyd

Gryff Kyffin

M'd. that David ap William Brawlinge of the towne of Weston in the parish of Saint Martyns with his three sonnes lawfully begoten videlicet Hugh ap David, William ap David, and John ap David, Richard ap Edward of Diddleston and Thomas ap Richard ap Edward his sonne, And Richard Atcherley with his sonnes David ap Kadwalader in the like.

Randulph lloyd

Gryff Kyff.

QUERIES.

MR. COTES.—In *Le Secret du Roi*, a book by the Duke of Broglie, just published, containing the history of the curious diplomatic intrigues of Louis XV., Mr. Cotes is mentioned as a leading member of the English Opposition. Did he belong to the Shropshire Coteses? And, if so, where can be found an account of him? E.

RACHEL'S WELL.—There is a tradition of a well of this name in Severn Port, in Llanidloes. Can any one give me information respecting this well? I should like to know of its history, and any legend and interesting facts connected with it. IDLOESYN.

A MONTGOMERYSHIRE GENTLEMAN'S MANSION.—Lord Lyttleton, in his *Journey into Wales*, 1756, writing of his course from Ludlow to Montgomery, says, "In our way from hence to Montgomery, we passed through a country very romantic and pleasant, in many spots: in which we saw farms so well situated, that they appeared to us more delightful situations than Clermont or Burleigh. At last we came by a gentleman's house, on the side of a hill opening to a sweet valley; which seemed to be built in a taste much superior to that of a mere country esquire. We therefore stopt, and desired to see it, which curiosity was well paid for; we found it the neatest and best house of a moderate size, that ever we saw. The master, it seems, was bred to the law, but quitted the profession about fifteen years ago, and retired into the country upon an estate of £500 per annum, with a wife and four children; notwithstanding which incumbrances, he found means to fit up the house in the manner we saw it, with remarkable elegance, and to plant all the hill about him with groves and clumps of trees, that, together with an admirable prospect seen from it, render it a place which a monarch might envy. But, to let you see how vulgar minds value such improvement, I must tell you an answer made by our guide, who was servant to Lord Powis's steward, and spoke, I presume, the sense of his master, upon our expressing some wonder that this gentleman had been able to do so much with so small a fortune; 'I do not,' said he, 'know how it is, but he is always doing some nonsense or other.'" What house is referred to here? D.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT (Jan. 15, 1879).—When I was spending a few days with the late Rev. John Jones (Tegid) at Nevern Vicarage, Pembroke-shire in 1843 or 1844, I remember having seen among his books a copy of Salesbury's Welsh Testament. What became of it after his death (in 1852) when his books were publicly sold, I have no means to know. Being then a stripling, and, as now, not much of a bibliographer, I did not take any note of the condition of the book; and I am unable to state whether it was complete, or complete with the exception of the Table of Errata found only in Mr. Breese's copy, or not. It is possible it may be identical with one of the copies mentioned in that gentleman's valuable contribution on the subject (Nov. 27, 1878), or the one now in the possession of Mr. Salisbury (Dec. 18). Tegid's nephew, the present Vicar of Gwernaffield, near Mold, who edited his uncle's Poetical Works in 1859, may perhaps be able to assist us to trace the volume to its present owner.

GWYDDAN.

OSWESTRY CHARTERS (Jan. 8, 1879).—"W." will be glad to hear that not only is the charter of Richard carefully preserved by the Corporation, but that Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., purposes having the initial portrait reproduced in autotype or other facsimile process, as an illustration to his paper on the Oswestry Charters, which is about to appear in the Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society.

JARCO.

LLANFYLLIN MEETING (Jan. 22, 1879).—The meeting referred to was the races held on Cefn Bran on the 28th of June. This was a county meeting, and attended by the aristocracy and hundreds of spectators. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn presented annually a cup value fifty pounds. The races were transferred to Cyn-y-Bwch about 1790. It is just possible that these races were instituted in honour of the visit of Charles I., whose soldiers encamped not far from the racecourse. From the wickedness that prevailed at those meetings, or possibly in allusion to the visit of King Charles, the following *penill* is often sung to the harp:—

Mae lodes yn Llanfyllin
Sydd yn ein bro er's tipyn;
'Does fawr o sôn am Dduw'n y blaen
Ar Gefn Bran y Brenhin.

CYFFIN.

FEBRUARY 5, 1879.

NOTES.

AN OSWESTRY DESERTER.—A reward of Two Guineas, over and above "what is allowed by Act of Parliament," was offered in Sep., 1803, for the apprehension of Charles Dyke (servant to Mr. Phipps, of Lower Cound, farmer and paper maker), who had been balloted to serve in the Shropshire Supplementary Militia, but had absconded. Dyke was thus described:—"Supposed to be in the neighbourhood of Oswestry, where his friends reside; is about 28 years of age, 5ft. 7in. high, dark complexion, and has a speck on one of his eyes." S.P.

CARRIERS TO LONDON IN 1637.—Mr. Arbor has recently reprinted John Taylor's *Carrier's Cosmography*, published in 1637; a book giving a list of such towns having communication with London by means of carriers as he could obtain, and the names of the Inns, Ordinaries, and Hostleries where these carriers lodged. The author had some difficulty in obtaining his information, for, he says, "In some places I was suspected for a

Projector, or one that had devised some trick to bring the Carriers under some new taxation, and sometimes I was held to have been a Man-taker, a Sergeant, or Bailiff, to arrest or attack men's goods or beasts. Indeed I was scarce taken for an honest man amongst the most of them." The following are all I can find in the lists that come within the district covered by *Bye-gones*:—

The Carriers of Bridgnorth do lodge at the *Maiden-head* in Cateaton-street, near the Guildhall.

The Carriers of Chester do lodge at the *Castle* in Wood-street. They are there to be had on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

The Carriers of Chester do lodge at *Blossom's* or *Bosom's Inn*, in St. Laurence lane, near Cheapside; every Thursday.

The Carriers of Denbigh in Wales do lodge at *Bosom's Inn* every Thursday. Also other Carriers do come to the said Inn from other parts of that country.

The Carriers of Monmouth in Wales, and some parts of Monmouthshire, do lodge at the [*Saint*] *Paul's Head* in Carter lane. They do come to London on Fridays.

The Carriers of Shrewsbury do lodge at the *Maiden-head* in Cateaton-street, near Guildhall. They come on Thursdays.

The Carriers of Shrewsbury do also lodge at *Bosom's Inn*. They do come on Thursdays. And there do lodge carriers that do travel divers parts of the county of Shropshire and places adjoining.

M.H.

THE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS OF 1804.

Through the courtesy of Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., we are in possession of a list of the names of all the officers connected with the volunteer regiments of Shropshire and Wales early in this century. This list, which is dated 1 Oct. 1804, was issued by the War Office, and is now rarely to be met with. We intend from time to time to give extracts until the whole is completed. Errors will doubtless be found in the spelling of some of the names, and we should be thankful to any of our readers who will point these out. We begin with the Oswestry companies:—

OSWESTRY RANGERS, cavalry.

Major Comm. Geo. Henry Warrington, 7 Jan. 1803.

Captain, William Hamilton Martin, 24 Feb. 1804.

Lieutenants, Lawton Parry, 7 Jan. 1803; Thomas Salter, 20 Oct. 1803.

Cornets, Henry Bowman, Thomas Holwell, 20 Oct. 1803.

Chaplain, Joseph Venables, 24 Nov. 1803.

Adjutant, Arthur Davenport, 8 Nov. 1798.

Surgeon, Robert Cartwright, 24 Nov. 1803.

OSWESTRY ARTILLERY.

Captain, John Bradbridge, 28 Apr. 1804.

First Lieut., Edward Croxon, 22 Aug. 1803.

Second do., Wm. Henry Newenham, 22 Aug. 1803.

The Oswestry Rangers, as was stated in *Bye-gones*, Mar. 10, 1875, was a company raised in 1797, with Mr. Mytton of Halston (father to the celebrated Jack Mytton) as captain. Sixty persons enrolled their names, and a hundred pounds was raised to defray expenses. On Oct. 12 of the same year Mrs. Mytton presented colours to the corps on the Bailey Head, the consecration of the colours being performed by the chaplain, the Rev. Turner Edwards. At that period Mr. L. J. Venables was cornet. In Sep. 1798, Mr. Mytton died, and Mr. G. H. Warrington became captain, Mr. Venables, lieutenant, Mr. John Rogers, cornet, and Mr. A. N. Davenport, adjutant. In May, 1799, Mr. Owen Ormsby of Porkington, was appointed "Major-Commandant;" which office he resigned in Nov., 1802. An address was presented to Mr. Ormsby on his resignation (see *Bye-gones*, July 10, 1878) signed by

the following :—G. H. Warrington, Lawton Parry, William Roberts, Edward Owen, Edward B. Marriott, John Croxon, jun., A. Davenport, adjutant; Ed. Edwards, sec. The Shrewsbury newspapers early in 1803 announced the following promotions in the corps :—"Capt. Warrington to be Major, Lieut. L. J. Venables to be Captain; and Cornet L. Parry to be Lieutenant." It would appear from the official list of Oct., 1804 (from which we copy the names given to-day) that Mr. Venables only held the office of captain a little more than twelve months, for a new name is introduced in Feb., 1804. Cornets Bowman and Holwell, appointed Oct. 1803, took the places vacated by Messrs. Morrall and R. Croxon. Mr. Salter, at the same time made lieutenant, took the place vacated by Mr. W. Lloyd. We should be glad of information respecting several of the names in the Oswestry lists of Rangers and Artillerymen. On Mar. 14, 1877, we gave the effective strength of the Rangers, from an official list dated 1803, as 104. Mr. Warrington was still the Major; and the Artillery numbered 102, the captain's name being spelt "Broadbridge." Who was he? Mr. Bradbridge succeeded Mr. Newenham, who resigned the captaincy in Apr. 1804. Who were the Newenhams? There would appear to have been two of the name in the company. Ed.

QUERIES.

WELSH PATRONYMS.—What is the explanation of the custom of adding the letter *s* to Christian names when they are adopted as surnames, as in Williams, Evans, &c., &c.? How early is the name Jones found in documents relating to Wales? Is the custom of adding *s* an Anglicism? There appears to be no warrant for it in Welsh? NEWO.

TURKISH TENT AT HAWKESTONE.—It was stated in the local papers of July, 1802, that among the many curiosities brought by Col. Hill from Egypt, was a Turkish Tent of a very singular texture, and embroidered in various colours. It was pitched in the pleasure grounds at Hawkestone, with the following inscription over one of the doors :—

This tent was brought by Col. Hill from Egypt. It belonged to the famous Morad Bay: was taken at the battle of the Pyramids by the French, and taken from them when Grand Cairo surrendered to the English, June 25, 1801.

It is further stated, on the authority of Sir Sidney Smith, that this tent was the one in which "the Convention of El Airish was signed." Is it in existence yet?

SCROBBES BYRIG.

ANOTHER SERGEANT DAVIES.—Mention was once made in *Bye-gones* of a Shropshire man, Sergeant Davies, who was buried in Shrewsbury in 1820, having, from the time it was completed, been custodian of Lord Hill's Column at Shrewsbury. In the *Gents' Mag.* for Dec. 1816, under the head of "Salop" there is the death of another Sergeant Davies recorded, as having taken place at Bulth. He was stated to have been in his 91st year, and to have formerly belonged to the 58th reg. The following outline of his career is given :—"This gallant veteran was at the taking of Louisburgh, Gasprey, Mount Louis, Quebec, and Montreal: at the siege of Havannah he was taken prisoner, and carried to Hispaniola, and was liberated at the Peace of 1762; he afterwards served in Ireland, and at Gibraltar. He was supposed to be the best marksman in the army. Lord Howe gave the challenge that Sergeant Davies should charge and discharge his musket oftener in a minute than

any other soldier in the battalion, which he did, and gained a considerable bet for his commander. He has been known to kill 70 brace of woodcocks in the season :—When he pointed his piece, it was death to man and bird." Where did this Sergeant Davies hail from? D.

NEWS AGENTS IN 1794.—After the "Imprint" of J. and J. Eddowes, to the first number of the *Salopian Journal*, published Jan. 29, 1794, appear the names of the following local agents :—

Shrewsbury, P. Sandford.	Whitchurch, J. Wright.
Wellington, E. Houlston.	Shifnal, T. Pugh.
Bridgnorth, G. Gitton.	Wenlock, S. Gwyane.
Ludlow, H. Proctor.	Oswestry, T. Hotchkiss.
Ellesmere, E. Kynaston.	Bishop's Castle, C. Griffiths.
Welsh Poole, Oliver Jones.	Dolgelley, J. Lloyd.
Wrexham, R. Marsh and Mrs. Hughes.	Machynlleth, Hugh Davis.

News Agents were not always Booksellers, and Booksellers are not always Printers. What I should like to know is what trade or calling the above-mentioned followed, and how many of them were practical printers.

TYPO.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY QUARTER SESSIONS (Sep. 25, 1878).—At this date JARCO says, that under the provisions of Charles the Second's Charter, the Mayor of Oswestry, after he had served his year of office, during the succeeding year served the office of coroner. But I observe, in a paragraph on "Old Oswestrians" (July 17, 1878), the same writer records the election of Mr. Longueville Jones to the office of coroner, on the death of Mr. Lloyd, in 1797. Mr. Lloyd was mayor in 1769. How, then, would he be coroner 28 years after? TYPO.

[Our correspondent is confounding the office of Borough Coroner—which, previous to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act in 1835, was annual—with that of District (or County) Coroner, which was permanent.—ED.]

EVANS THE BELLMAN (Apr. 10, 1878).—At this date "L." gave a verse commencing

"Young maids arise
And make your mince pies, &c."

as a sample of "snatches of doggerel of his own composing" sung at Christmas by this old Oswestry Bellman. It would appear, however, that Evans did but paraphrase lines well-known in other localities. In *Notes and Queries* for Dec. 21, 1878, a correspondent under the heading "Christmas in England," says :—"It was customary at Bewdley for the bellman to go round the town on Christmas morning, ringing his bell, singing the following doggerel :—

"Arise, mistress, arise,
And make your tarts and pies,
And let your maids lie still, &c."

The only essential difference seems to have been that in Worcestershire the mistresses were called up, and in Shropshire the maids! JARCO.

OLD FOLKS (Jan. 22, 1879).—*Morgan of Trawsfynydd*.—The reply of ANON, taken from the *Gents' Mag.* for March, 1817, is partially incorrect respecting the second person mentioned. My great-gr t-grandfather Edmund (not Edward) Morgan was buried at Trawsfynydd, co. Merioneth, aged 113 (not 110), although at the time of his death his age was supposed to be 111, and this was inscribed on the coffin-plate and on the tombstone. Afterwards, however, his correct age

was found in the church at Llanfihangel-y-traethau, and the figures 111 chiseled off the tombstone, and 113 substituted. I leave it to others better informed than myself to say whether my ancestor's is the greatest age known in Wales.

E. R. EDMUNDS.

Leighton, Welshpool.

FEBRUARY 12, 1879.

NOTES.

CHURCH AND KING RIOTS IN WREXHAM IN JULY 1715.

In the Registers belonging to Chester-street Chapel, Wrexham, the following extracts from the Diary of the Rev. John Kenrick have been preserved:—

"July 16. The rioters broke into our Meeting House at Wrexham, pulled down the pulpit and pews, and threw them into the pool; broke down the door, and battered the windows. The old Meeting House was uncovered, the slates and laths and walls destroyed the same night.

"17. Being Lord's Day the children and young people did a great deal of harm to the new [qu. old] meeting house.

"17. Being Lord's Day Mr. Williams and I preached at Mr. Hugh Roberts's house to a numerous and mournful assembly. From that day till the old Meeting House was repaired Mr. Williams continued to preach The Word and administer the Sacrament at Mr. Roberts's as at Mr. Nicholls.

"18. The colliers came to town to protect and assist the Rioters. We applied to Mr. Watkin Williams who was at an Audit same day in Wrexham. He came with his hat in his hand, and desired them to forbear. He took away one of them along with him, and told them not to do anything while they stayed in town. Afterwards the colliers were prevailed upon and prevented from doing mischief until evening and for fear. At night the town people did a great deal of harm, uncovering the roof, breaking the timbers, demolishing the entire walls, breaking the door frames and window frames.

"19. In the evening they came to their work again.

"20. The rioters are at it.

"21. A great deal of harm done.

"28. At it in a most violent manner, staid till morning, then went about town in a most violent manner.

"30. Last night these workers of iniquity were employed.

"Mem. 12 July, 1715. There was a riot of the Tradesmen and some of the principal inhabitants of the town.

"Aug. 1. Being the King's Ascension to the Throne was not at all observed at Wrexham except by the Dissenters, who had a sermon preached that day and their shops shut. But there was no bell-ringing, no bonfire, nor illumination—the ordinary marks of public rejoicing. But the windows were broken in a certain inn where some loyal persons were drinking the King's health, &c.

"Sep. 15, 1715. Informations were given in at the Great Sessions at Ruthin against 31 of the rioters.

"Oct. 20. The King's Coronation Day. The bells rung, but at night great riots and disorders committed. The Dissenters' bonfire put out, their windows broken, the Meeting Houses threatened, and the mob beat at the door. Treasonable songs were sung about the town, and great disorders allowed.

"They went about the streets and made noises like dogs—behold fire out of their mouths, swords were in their lips.

"Lord be not merciful to any wicked transgressors.

"Nov. 14. No ringing of bells, no illumination, no bonafire except at a Dissenter's house, though there was abundant demonstration of joy on account of the successes of the Rebels at Preston.

"Nov. 22. The great news of the victory over the Rebels in Scotland, but no public demonstration of joy at Wrexham.

"There were great threatenings by the wide and bygotted rabble respecting the Rebels from the North, who came as far as Preston in Lancashire with a design of coming up towards London, but were happily prevented by the King's forces, under Major General Wills, who came down with special orders to attack them wherever he met them. He was to have had ten regiments under his command, but he attacked the Rebels before his troops all came up, and forced them, after a bloody engagement, to surrender prisoners at discretion. There were signs and appearances of a Kind Providence that the Rebels were so entirely swallowed up at once, suffered to come down so far so that the disaffected might discover themselves, yet no further that the loyal people might be put out of fear. This blow to the Rebels quieted the mad and disaffected in this town, who were so violent and daring, so outrageous and cruel.

"One person who had been the great encourager of the mob in pulling down the Meeting Houses was actually at Preston, and taken with the Rebels there. He had gone with a design to acquaint them about the forwardness they were in to receive them here, and to direct and encourage them in their wicked designs and rebellious progress. He was discharged and returned to Wrexham. The bells were rung for his escape and safe return.

"May 28, 1716. Being King Georges birthday but little ringing.

"May 29. A very great riot and ringing all day.

"June 7. Thanksgiving Day. They did not begin till far in the day. No sermon.

"June 10. They began to ring about 8 o'clock and continued ringing only when chiming for service time till late at night. They wore feathers in their hats and oak boughs and openly blessed the Pretender.

"Mem. Mar. 28, 1717. The rioters being removed by certiorari to the Crown office their trial came on at Salop."

Here the extracts end. A short record of the trial would be interesting, also something further respecting Mr. Watkin Williams's connection with Wrexham at so early a period as 1715. That gentleman did not come into possession of the Wynnstay estate until after the death of Sir John Wynn in 1719, and I have understood that Sir John had not always intended that he should be his heir. The Kenrick Diary would lead us to suppose that as early as 1715 he who five-and-twenty years afterwards became the first Sir Watkin, was already a power in the district.

M.R.

SHROPSHIRE COMPOUNDERS (Nov. 13,

1878).—The following names were omitted from the list given at this date:—

Acton Walter, Newdenham	3	6	8
Baldwin Charles, Elswick, Esq....	586	0	0
Butts John, of Ludlow, gent.	3	6	8
Eyton Robert, Pentree Maddock, Knt.	82	6	8
Goodwin Ralph, Ludlow, Esq.	412	10	0
Jennings Philip, Dudleston, gent.	137	4	6
Jones Edward, of Martins, gent.	74	5	0
Lee Sir Richard, of Langly, Knt. and Baronet, with 169 <i>l</i> . 9 <i>s</i> . per an. set.	3719	13	4
Lacon Rowland, Kinlet, Esq....	66	0	0
Lloyd Richard, of Lloyd-Amain, Esq.	480	0	0

Newport Sir Richard of- High Archell, with 170l. per annum settled	3287	6	8
Newport Francis of Eyton upon Severn, Esq.	5284	0	0
Newport Earl Mountrig, with 40l. per annum settled upon the minister	4179	0	0
Penn Humphrey, Ashford-carber	197	0	0
Screven Richard of Frodgly, Esq.	117	0	0
Smaleman Robert Wildertop, Esq.	140	0	0
Talbot Sir John Salop Lancaster, Knight	444	0	0
Wolridge Sir Thomas, Dudmaston	730	14	0
Wallascot Katharine widow of William	173	0	0
Weld Sir John senior of Willy	1121	18	4
Weld Sir John junior of Willy, Knight	757	2	0
Whitmore Sir Thomas Apley	5000	0	0

The foregoing are taken from a small 8vo. book entitled "A Catalogue of the Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen that have compounded for their Estates. London, printed for Thomas Dring, at the signe of the George in Fleetstreet neare Cliffords Inne. 1655." The book is prefaced by the following dedication:—

To those Noble persons that are concern'd, the Stationer humbly dedicates the ensuing Pages.

Protesting, that he hath no desire to revive your past misfortunes, or to involve you in new ones: could he harbour a just fear, this black legend should be more gladly sacrificed to the flames, then offered to the world: He knows you too Generous, to gather solace from the sufferings of others, or else, to shew you, that your affliction is not solitary, would be a sufficient excuse to patronize this publication. 'Tis a Melancholly thing to reflect upon crimes, but not alwaies so upon losses, since we may be necessitated to embrace the last, out of a conscience to evade the first. This book is but an index to a greater volume, such as have been scourged by the times, use to number many such lashes as these: But 'tis not for us of the lowest sphere, to censure or moderate in those intricate contests, which our home-divisions have engendered, our inconsiderableness has redeem'd us from those snaring Enigma's, those Rocks, upon which the greatest Reasons and Estates have dash'd and perished, you your selves best know your own engagements: But in *(These)* this may be received as a sober truth, that he happilie consults his Treasure, who honestly losses, or piously expends it; yea more, every drop of blood that is shed in a good cause, shall commence a Ruby in heaven.

The meanest of those that serve and honour you, T. D.

Another week we hope to give from the same source a list of the "compounders" in the Welsh counties. ED.

QUERIES.

HARDWICK PEW IN ELLESMERE CHURCH.

The following are "Lines found on a grave-stone underneath Hardwick pew in Ellesmere Church in April 1839, on opening the ground for a vault for Sir Edw. Kynaston, Bart." :—

"Our lucke was harde as seemeth unto wee
When we should have the only branch and tree
Untimely fallen, by Thomas Jennings hand
Had pleased God thou hadst been better man."

Round these lines there was the following inscription:—
"Here lyeth buried the bodye of Phillip Lloyd gentleman, sonne and heyre of Francis Lloyd of Hardwick esquire, who departed this life the 4 day of June anno domino 1615. Glory be to God Amen." Can any reader of *Bye-gones* afford an explanation of the inscription? C.

MILTON'S WIDOW.—I have seen it stated that the widow of John Milton died at Nantwich in March, 1726. Can any one give something connected with her residence there? R. ROSSE TEWK, B.A.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT. (Jan. 29, 1879.)—A copy of Salesbury's Welsh Testament has been recently found amongst some old books, at Chirk, minus the fly-leaf. OWEN.

[OWEN does not, we fear, describe the missing leaf sufficiently. And as one object is to preserve a record of the possessors of Salesbury's Test. of 1567, his communication would be additionally valuable by the publication of his name.—ED.]

MORGAN OF TRAWSFYNYDD. (Feb. 5, 1879.)—You have published a wonderful list of Welsh and Border Centenarians from time to time in *Bye-gones*, and, at last, seem to have hit upon one that may be capable of proof. I refer to Mr. Morgan of Trawsfynydd, who died early in this century, and as stated by the *Gents: Mag:* of 1817 at the age of 110, but who, according to his descendant, Mr. EDMUNDS of Leighton, was really believed to have been 113 years old when he died. If Mr. EDMUNDS will only give proof of this, he will silence a host of doubters, who hold with the late Sir Cornwall Lewis, and Mr. Thoms, that these instances of great age, when they come to be investigated, invariably turn out to be myths. SCEPTIC.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Jan. 8, 1879.)

DAKER, ANDREW, born at Conover, Shropshire, served in 1593 the Church of St. Alkmond's, Shrewsbury, and having applied in vain for the living of St. Mary's in the same town, he grew angry, and gave up the vicarage of the former church in disgust. This independent gentleman justly prided himself upon his descent from a very ancient family who had borne sway in Shropshire for some centuries, but "he stomached himself over-much, and sometimes forgot that there were others who could boast of distinguished forbears, and who carried themselves more genteely than he did," a sort of broad hint to all who pride themselves upon their blood that humility is as honourable a trait in character as the best of us should desire. We are charitable enough to hope that Mr. Daker had far better reasons than those assigned for throwing up his living; at all events the "anger" alluded to can have no substantial evidence in its support, for in another account of this gentleman we find that he resigned St. Alkmond's in 1596 to take St. Mary's, but missed the latter by some misunderstanding between himself and the patron or patrons of the living. Traditionally he bore a great character for eloquence and learning, and but for his "temper" it is thought he might have occupied a high position in the Church.

DAMME, THOMAS, a native of Cheshire, died at Leighton, in that county, in 1684, aged one hundred and fifty-four. That is the evidence of the register book of Church Minshal, but how far these testimonies are to be relied upon is open to serious doubt. Local scribes in this instance say "that the district of country where he is considered to have resided in is considerably elevated, the atmosphere pure, and the inhabitants famous for longevity," but we have looked in vain for other instances in proof of this boast, and are unwilling to accept it of any value in the absence of evidence such as that mentioned.

DANIEL, HERBERT, was born in 1801 near Pontypool, Monmouthshire. He was educated for the Nonconformist ministry at Pontypool and Abergavenny, and in 1832, ordained minister of the Congregational Church at Maes-yewmwr. To his labours is due the formation of Independent churches at Pontypool and Cefnycrib, and his powerful influence was exerted beneficially in promoting the

cause of religion in divers parts of his native country. He was "a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, who gave much alms to the poor, and prayed to God alway"; his life pure and unspotted, his character free from all reproach, his style of preaching effective, and his ministerial labours untiring. He died in 1874, leaving behind him an example which cannot be too closely followed by men of his calling, for if souls are to be won to Christ, the labourers employed must themselves be Christ-like, humble, faithful, and self-sacrificing, shining lights, and salt of the earth, meet ambassadors of, and for, the great truths they have to proclaim to men.

DANIELL, PETER, son of a gentleman of the same name who sat in Parliament for Cheshire in 1625, was born at Over Tabley, in that county, and in the great Civil War he attached himself to the failing cause of the King. He entered into the Royal cause with an ardent desire to save his country from ruin, and was soon made a captain in a foot regiment raised by Earl Rivers. He was present at the siege of Gloucester in 1643, and, being wounded there, was removed to Oxford, where he ended his attachment to his sovereign with his life.

DANSEY, RICHARD, a native of Herefordshire, was a gentleman who greatly distinguished himself as an officer in the army under Lord Peterborough in Spain. It is said that "some of his exploits approached the marvellous," but these have not been mentioned in detail, although it is admitted on all hands that his gallantry and courage was of the highest. He died unmarried in 1740. A family of his name had dwelt upon the Border lands for many generations, and in a pedigree we have seen, Mr. Dansey is shewn to have descended from one Robert Dansey, living in Herefordshire at the time of the sixth Henry.

DARNEL, SIR JOHN, son of Ralph Darnel, of Loughton's Hope, near Pembridge, in Herefordshire, was born, it is said, in that place and county. He was educated for the law, and in 1692 became a serjeant, having already acquired considerable fame as an advocate. In 1698 he was made a king's serjeant, and was shortly afterwards knighted by King William the Third. His name is mentioned with respect in the law books, as appearing for the Crown in numerous important cases, but he was often employed in defending noted individuals who were charged with the commission of grave offences against the law, and being equally earnest in his practice on either side, Garth wrote of him thus—

Five guineas make a criminal to-day,
And ten to-morrow wipe the stain away;
To law then, friends, for 'tis by fate decreed,
Vagellins and our money shall succeed.

This eminent man died in 1706, and is buried at Clement Danes Church, London.

DARWIN, CHARLES, the eminent naturalist, was born in Shropshire, and was for a time at Mr. Case's school, Shrewsbury, where, even then, he was distinguished for his knowledge of some of the abstruse subjects which have since that time occupied his thoughts. His elegant work, "The Voyage of a Naturalist," made his name familiar to English readers, and since that work was published he has sent forth many learned books of a very remarkable, not to say startling character. Whatever we may think of his pronounced opinions upon particular subjects, it is impossible not to admit that he is among the most distinguished of our many famous authors, and that Salop especially has great reason to be proud of her son.

DAVENPORT, EDWARD DAVIES, born at Capesthorpe, Cheshire, in the year 1778. He wrote several things, among them "Observations on the Causes and Cure of the Distressed State of Agriculture," 1822, "The Corn Question," 1825, "How to Improve the Condition of the Working Classes," 1845. In many respects he was a remarkable man, for, allied as he was to the best families in the country, and deriving his entire income from land, yet his sympathies always lay on the side of liberty, and he strove for the advancement of the people at large. He sat for several years in Parliament, and there also he advocated and supported every measure that tended to the furtherance of civil and religious liberty. At his death he left an only son to inherit his estates, but he did not long survive the father, and the property then passed into the hands of Mr. Bromley, of Warwickshire.

DAVENPORT, PETER, a Cheshire man, who lived at the old family mansion, Bramhall Hall, in 1643, did not seem to have been in good luck with either of the two factions which at that time "meddled with and muddled" the affairs of unhappy England. He complains that upon one day a parliamentary commander with his troopers "came to Bramhall, and went into the stable and took out all my horses, above twenty in all, and afterwards searched my house for arms, and took my fowling piece, starting piece and drum, with divers other things," and we need not wonder how deeply amazed honest Peter must have been with the impudence of "roundheads," who did him so much wrong; but next day came Prince Rupert and his army, by whom "I lost better than a hundred pounds in linen and other goods, besides the rifling and pulling to pieces of my house," and he might well therefore be pardoned for exclaiming, "A plague on both your houses." He was a right good man, however, and sorried over the wickedness of the times, "seeing neither profit nor honour to his country in the feuds and bloodshed that turned friendship into hate, and drove brother against brother upon the cruel battle field." He kept a good conscience through it all, and died regretted by both sides alike, for none could call in question his honour, nor did anyone charge him with want of patriotism. There were many of his school in England, true friends to their country, who knew that Charles was to blame, but who did not dare to raise so much as a finger against "the Lord's Anointed."

DAVENPORT, SIR SALISBURY, a distinguished naval commander, was born at Clungenford, Salop, in the year 1778. He entered the navy 1790, and was present at the siege of St. Lucia in 1797; took part in the expedition to the Helder in 1799, and on each occasion he displayed a courage that did him honour. In the year 1807, when in command of the *Leopold*, he captured the American frigate *Chesapeake*, and gained great applause for the gallantry and seamanship which enabled him to do this distinguished service to his country, but for some unknown reason he was neglected by the authorities at home, although commended to them by the commanders under whom he served. In 1831 he gained his K.C.B., and in 1834 the Cross of a Knight Commander of the Royal Honorary Guelphic Order was given to him, and in 1840 he was made a rear admiral. His original surname was Humphreys, but upon his marriage in 1810 to Miss Davenport, of Bramhall Hall, Cheshire, he took her name and secured her estate. He died in 1845.

DAVENPORT, WILLIAM, a son of the family of that name, in Cheshire, where he himself was born, is named in the *Llwyd MS.* as one of the Davenports, who, for the

capture of the wild and merry outlaws infesting Wild-borough in that county, "received two shillings and a salmon," and who had the reputation of being a bold and keen sportsman, who felt how—

Merry it was in the greene forest,
Among theleves greene,
Where men hunt east and west,
With bows and arrows keen.

This gentleman was not content to remain at home "in the greene forest," but emigrated to America and founded a family there. He was a hot loyalist during the Civil Wars in England, and upon the death of the King, left this country. He died in Philadelphia in 1694.

DAVID, PHILIP, was born at Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire, in the year 1709, and after receiving an excellent education he was ordained into the Independent Ministry in 1739. When most of the Nonconformists in Wales favoured Mr. Howell Harris and the Methodists, Mr. David strongly objected to them. The truth is that he had no objection to their zeal for religion, but he disliked the modes in which they promulgated their views; the noise and agitation with which they heralded their opinions, and probably he did not concur in the constitution of their Societies. It required great courage to take up this defiant tone when the masses of the people were flocking after the new Sectaries, but we can now see how necessary it was to do all this, although we may doubt the prudence of Mr. David in doing it. He was a person of mark in his day and at his death in 1787, he left behind him some valuable manuscripts which have been usefully employed in developing the Nonconformist history of his times.

DAVIES, BUNGY, born in Shropshire in the year 1638, was a servant in the employ of Sir Job Charlton, when James the Second visited that gentleman. When staying at Ludlow, Sir Job sent him out as one of the light horse at the time of the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion, and he was in the battle, and brought back with him to his master five of the rebels' horses. He died in 1750, aged 112, "and to his dying day would he speak with rapture of the hospitality of Sir Job when the King visited him at Ludford House."

DAVIES, CASSANDRA, a native of Kington in Herefordshire, is worthy of notice as having by deed, dated March, 1744, settled and directed the payment of an annual benefaction from her estate as a perpetual charity for the old and necessitous parishioners of her native place. She died four years afterwards, and is buried at Kington.

DAVIES, EDWARD, born at Ashton in Shropshire, in the year 1796, gave promise in childhood of the scholarship which distinguished him in his manhood. He was educated at Wrexham and Chester, and having chosen to devote himself to the Nonconformist ministry he was sent in 1817 to the Llanfyllin Academy, where under the guidance of Dr. George Lewis, he soon acquired a knowledge of the principal points in divinity as then held by the Independents. He had not been very long at Llanfyllin before he was appointed classical tutor to the College, and some time after the removal of that institution to Newtown, he became principal of it, and minister of the Independent Church there. In 1839 the Academy was transferred to Brecon in South Wales, and for eighteen years after that he occupied the position of classical tutor at it with great honour and acceptance. He died in 1857 somewhat suddenly.

DAVIES, EDWARD, born at Llanyblodwel, Shropshire, in the year 1786. He is deserving of mention for the

good service he rendered to religion in the early days of the nineteenth century. He was ordained at a place called Cutiau in 1818, and for some years he laboured with acceptance in the wilds of Merionethshire. After that he preached at Nantmawr, Sychtyn, and other hamlets in the neighbourhood of Oswestry, but he was never eminent as a public speaker, although an earnest and untiring worker, and "for his work's sake" he seemed to be respected and followed by many, who had heretofore been utterly careless about spiritual matters. He died in 1827.

DAVIES, MARY, was a native of Great Saughall, in Cheshire, and born there in 1594. When she was twenty-eight years of age an excrescence grew upon her head like to a wen, which continued thirty years, and then grew into two horns. After four years she cast them, then grew two more, and in about four years she cast them also. She was a very harmless and worthy woman, but had become so notorious that in 1668 her portrait was taken, and is now in the Sloane Museum. An engraving of it was published in the last century.

DAVIES, RICHARD, who wrote "Chester's Triumph in honour of her Prince," printed in 1610, signs himself "Her old townsman, Rd. Davies." It has been supposed that he was a Cambrian by birth, but it has been satisfactorily proved that he was a native of Chester. Mr. Amery had some hand in this rare book, but the poetry, at least, was the production of Mr. Davies's pen.

DAVIES, ROBERT, was born at Chester in the year 1581, and is best known as a member of the Gwysaney family in Flintshire, for which county he acted as high sheriff. He was the lay rector and patron of the living of St. Winefride at Holywell, and in 1626 he munificently transferred the right of nomination to the advowson, to Jesus College, Oxford, on condition that "a native of Wales rightfully and canonically" should be presented to the living so often as the incumbency became vacant. He died in 1638.

DAVIES, SAMUEL, was born at Leominster in 1803. He proceeded to Highbury for his education, whence in 1831, he was called to a sphere of labour at Bilston in Staffordshire, he afterwards became Co-Pastor with Mr. Bromley, of the Congregational Church, of Needham Market, and on the retirement of the latter, sole Pastor. In 1841 he was called to a wider sphere of usefulness and entered upon a ministry of twenty years at Harley-street Chapel, Bow. In 1861 he became pastor of Wood-street Chapel, Barnet, when he gained the esteem of all who knew him. He died in 1864. A bible was brought to him just before his death, when he put his finger on two passages, "Though he slay me yet will I trust in him," "Let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing," and then died in full possession of "that life which maketh not ashamed."

DAVIES, STEPHEN, a native of Leighton, in Shropshire, has been thought worthy of a place in the history of the county, and he must not be hustled out of it just because he was a joiner and carpenter. In 1734 he was born, and in 1831 he still lived a hale man of ninety-seven summers, with a wonderful memory, for he recollected the death of Sarah Beech in 1738 (aged 106); the rebellion of 1745, and the consternation occasioned by the rumour that the Pretender was marching upon Shrewsbury. We dare hardly hope that he is still living, but if dead our best wishes follow him, that he may long remain at peace in the silent graveyard of that prettiest of all the pretty villages of Salopia, which mantles so cosily under the Wrekin Hill, and upon the banks of the Severn.

DAVIES, THOMAS, a Shropshire man, born at St. Martins, near Oswestry, was selected by Lord Hill, in 1817, to take charge of the column which had been erected at Shrewsbury in his honour. In doing so Lord Hill gave him a most excellent character for gallantry, honesty, and steadiness of conduct, and he mentioned ten general battles in which he had been present. He was wounded at Badajos, was the first sergeant appointed in his regiment to the rank of Colour-Sergeant, and had served in the army for twenty years. He died in 1820.

DAWSON, RICHARD, a native of Bradley, in Cheshire, who died in 1625, was as true and noble a hero as if he had been crowned with stately honours for some great action done upon the field of battle. It is recorded of him that, being sick of the plague, and perceiving that he must die, and fearing to give the infection to others, he rose from his bed and proceeded to make his own grave; placing some straw at the bottom of the grave, he lay him down upon it, had clothes thrown over his body, and "so departed out of this world."

DAYNS, JOHN, a native of Northwich, in Cheshire, but who had settled in London and made a fortune there, at his death in 1554 provided the means for the foundation of a free grammar school in his native place and a sufficient endowment to carry it on for ever. He was an extraordinary man from all accounts, a merchant of great renown, who traded with divers parts of the known world, and who in his life-time gave abundantly of his means to succour the distressed poor.

DEAKIN, ROWLAND, a native of Astley, in Shropshire, died there in 1751, at the great age of ninety-five. His life is summed up thus upon his gravestone—

Many years I've seen, and many things I've known,
Five kings, two queens, an usurper on the throne;
But now lie sleeping in the dust,
As you the reader shortly must.

It is said that he had descended from a worthy family of his name in Cheshire, "many of whom had sacrificed fortune and life in defence of their country," but Rowland is passed over with the above scant notice, just as if his historic life sufficed alone to do due honour to his name.

DEAN, JOHN, born at Rowton, near Chester, in the year 1765, is mentioned in the Methodist records, as a very useful preacher, who in 1790 began to travel as one of their ministers. He laboured among them with great acceptance for thirty-two years, and did much real service in bringing the poor to an acquaintance with their solemn duties as accountable beings, and in civilizing them at a time when the very worst passions of human nature prompted men to give free scope to revolutionary principles. We have nothing to do in these records with the peculiar religious views of any people, but it may be fairly asserted that the evangelical character of the preaching of the early Methodists, providentially influenced the rougher public mind of England for good, when infidels were spreading their opinions all over Europe. Mr. Dean was well qualified to cope with this danger; he was a kind and benevolent man, an earnest preacher, devout, free from all cant, and already helper to all who were in trouble. He died at Lynn in the year 1822 aged fifty seven.

DEANE, SIR JOHN, who in 1558, founded a Grammar School at Witton, in Cheshire, was a native of that county. He had been brought up to the Church, and became Prebendary of Lincoln, and Parson of St. Bartholomew the Great in London. The endowment which he provided

for its maintenance, though small at the time, has since become valuable, and may become more so with care in the management of the estate.

DEANE, THOMAS, born at "The Park," Alderley, Cheshire, in the year 1619, has a monument put up to his memory in the Church of that beautiful domain, with a Latin inscription thus translated:—"Thomas Deane, late of the Park, gent., rests beneath this tomb, a lover of his God, his Church, his King, his Country, and of all good and virtuous deeds, the endower of the School in Alderley Church-yard, and a bright example of integrity in life, practicer of moral suavity, and condensation, charity towards the poor, and of generosity to his friends, and all men in any way related to him. He died on the 10th, and was buried on the 12th of June in the year 1695, aged 76." A man who deserved this record is worthy of continued remembrance by all Cestrians.

DEE, FRANCIS, son of David Dee, of Shrewsbury, "was born in that town, and did honour to her." He was sent to Merchant Taylor's School for his education, and no doubt proceeded thence to Cambridge, for we meet with him in 1594 as a Fellow of St. John's in that University. "His learning was of the best, and he stood well with men in authority," and thus probably he became a Canon of St. Paul's, soon after the date above mentioned, and in 1607 he secured the vicarage of St. Bartholomew in London. In 1615 he was made Rector of All Hallows, Lombard-street; in 1619 Chancellor of Sarum; and in 1634 Bishop of Peterborough. If these marks of honourable distinction were due to his learning, Shrewsbury may well be proud of her son, but the cruel hand of fate did not permit him to enjoy the highest dignity for long, seeing that he died in 1638, and that "his Bishopric was given to another."

DELVES, SIR THOMAS, a Cheshire man, who died in 1727, gave by deed the sum of £1,535 to be laid out in the purchase of lands for the purpose of clothing and educating twenty boys and ten girls, natives of the parish of Wyunbury. In 1786 these lands produced the annual sum of £94, and there is reason for thinking that under judicious management the income might be very largely increased.

DENIS, PETER, son of the Rev. Jacob Denis, was born at Chester in the year 1712. His father is said to have been one of the masters of the King's School in that city, and the son is himself supposed to have received his education there. He entered the navy when a lad, and, serving eventually as Lieutenant under Admiral Anson's flag, he accompanied that gallant sailor in his celebrated voyage round the world. That he was a brave man and a good officer we may very fairly conclude from the fact that he was in command of the Centurion at the battle of Cape Finisterre. Marrying well, he is mentioned as a landowner in Kent, and in 1754 he obtained a seat in Parliament. In 1757 he was appointed to the command of the Medway, and having distinguished himself at sea he was selected in 1761 to bring over to England the Princess Charlotte. In 1767 the honour of a Baronetcy was conferred upon him. In four years afterwards we meet with him in command of the Mediterranean Squadron, and in 1778 he died, being at the time a Vice-Admiral. Take him for all in all he was not an unworthy son of Chester, and although he may not be so well known upon the page of history as many other naval commanders who come down to us in a blaze of glory, there are few men who did more honour to the noble service in which he had been engaged than Sir Peter Denis, or who had higher claims to the gratitude of his country.

DE TABLEY, LORD, best known as Sir John Fleming Leicester, the early and munificent patron of British art, was born at Tabley House in Cheshire, 1762. Created Baron De Tabley in 1826, he died in the following year most deeply lamented by the native artists of the nation, to whom he had been throughout his life a constant, enlightened, and beneficent friend. His memoirs, published in 1826 by Mr. Carey, give a full account of the many services he rendered to his country, and to that work the reader is directed.

DIGBY, VENETIA, wife of Sir Kenelm Digby and daughter of Sir Edward Stanley, of Tongue Castle, Shropshire, was born there in the year 1600. Lord Clarendon speaks of her as "a lady of extraordinary beauty, of as extraordinary fame." Her husband was so enamoured with her beauty that he is said "to have attempted to exalt her charms and preserve her health by a variety of whimsical experiments, feeding her with capons fed with the flesh of vipers, and inventing for her use new cosmetics." She died in 1633, and was buried at Christ Church, London, where a monument is put up to her memory.

DOD, SIR ANTHONY, was a descendant of a very ancient family of his name, who had settled at Edge, in Cheshire, in the time of Henry the Second. He was born there, and early in life gave promise of that soldierly career which afterwards brought him distinction, if not wealth. He took part in the battle of Agincourt, and was then knighted as a mark of royal favour for the honourable and gallant part he had played for England. There is a tradition, that his ancestors came from Wales, but the foundation for it has no better warrant than the prefix of Cadwgan to the family name of Dod, used by one of the race, and perhaps its connection with the Davies's of Gwasanau and Llanerch, in Flintshire; but this was due to intermarriages subsequent to the close of the sixteenth century, whereby the Dods became Welsh landowners, as they continue to this day, Mr. Whitehall Dod of Llanerch being the representative of both lines. Mr. Dod's father sold the Cloverley estate to a Liverpool banker, and the Dods are no longer, we fear, represented in the direct line in Cheshire.

DOD, DAVID, son of Sir Anthony Dod, of Agincourt fame, was born in Cheshire, and upon the death of his father he succeeded to the old inheritance at Edge. The family had allied themselves to the Lancastrians, and when Henry VI. was struggling to hold his own against the Yorkist interest, and adhered somewhat unwisely to that party which ruled the Court, we find Mr. Dod among those of his partisans who addressed the King "in support of the liberties of Cheshire." We do not quite know how the Palatinate was threatened, but we do know very well that the people had very little "liberty." They were expected to submit to the Crown, to fight, and even to die for it, and this probably was the greatest privilege they could then enjoy. Dod was true to the traditions of the house founded by his ancestor, Hova Dot, but we may hope that he was as true to the rights of his countrymen, as he was bold to vindicate them in the manner related.

DOD, HENRY, son of Piers Dod, was born at Broxton, in Cheshire, and in 1620 published "All the Psalms of David, with certain Songes and Canticles of Moses, Debora, Isaiah, Hesechiah, and others," &c., &c. This rare work, though not of much intrinsic value, shows how devoted this good man was to the cause of religion. He belonged to a family of saints, had entered very deeply into the prevailing spirit of his times, and hastened

to contribute his share to the many Puritan works which sprang out of the great Reformation. The Psalms are all rendered in one uniform metre, with the prose version upon the margin of the pages. The volume he dedicated to his "worthy friend John Brewen of Stapleford."

DOD, ISABELLA, relict of Sir Samuel Dod, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, who died in 1722, being a native of Cheshire, left a sum of money to be laid out in lands for the erecting of almshouses and the support of the poor in Little Budworth in that county. The money thus devised was expended upon the purchase of an estate at Witenhall, and at the commencement of this century the rents accruing therefrom came to upwards of £127 per annum.

DOD, NATHANIEL, a native of Cheshire, was educated at Westminster School, and in 1582 elected thence to Christ Church, Oxford, where he became M.A. and D.D. In 1595 he was collated to the sixth stall in Chester Cathedral, a dignity retained by him till 1607, when he resigned it, after which event we have failed to trace him further.

DORE, DE ADAM, a celebrated philosopher, poet, and physician, is generally supposed to have been born in Herefordshire. He was one of the brethren of Dore Abbey in that county, and eventually became its abbot. He flourished in the reign of King John, and was eminent for his piety and learning. A book of his in opposition to Silvester Girald, who had charged the regulars with incontinency and avarice, brought him into notice, and added to his reputation among men of letters.

DOVASTON, MILWARD EDWARD, a member of the greatly respected Salopian family of that name, was born at Llanymynech in the year 1800, and received his education at the Oswestry Grammar School, from whence he proceeded to the Middlesex Hospital to be trained as a surgeon. He afterwards practised his profession with success, and was much esteemed not only for his ability, but also for his kind, genial, and convivial character. He was an accomplished Ornithologist, Botanist, and Antiquary; a fair musician, and a poet. He died at Llan-drinio in 1852 very deeply lamented by his numerous friends and acquaintance, for he was a general favourite, and a true friend, and of him it might be truly said:—

Men who have lost thee, shall mourn and lament thee;
But thou shalt rejoice in thy glory on high.

DOVEY, RICHARD, a native of Salop, is mentioned in a work published in the last century, as a person who had made a considerable fortune in trade, and who, being of a generous disposition, "had aided several young men, his countrymen, to obtain the means of becoming rich themselves" but in that respect he was no better than other men, and would deserve no particular commendation. In 1659, however, he founded a free school at Claverley, in his native county, and "gave abundantly at his death for the support of the poor." He must have been a wag, for in one of his bequests he prescribed that "eight shillings should be paid yearly to a poor man of the parish of Claverley, who should undertake to awaken sleepers and whip out dogs from the church during divine service." In an old manuscript it is said of him that when a boy he undertook the first of these duties in his own person "by blowing peas out of a tin funnel upon the faces or heads of offending worshippers," and that when the clergyman remonstrated with him he replied: Never thee heed, thou go on with the service, and I will keep the beggars awoken for thee." A benefactor to his race, as he certainly was, we can well afford to pardon his small failings.

DOWNES, ANDREW, was born in Shropshire about 1550, and having received his education at Shrewsbury, he went in 1567 to Cambridge, where in 1586 he was appointed Professor of Greek. He was undoubtedly a fine scholar. His edition of Lysias, published in 1593, shows that. He was one of the translators of the Bible, and died in 1627.

DOWNES, PETER, who was killed in the action between the Leander and the Geneveux, near Candia, on the 18th of August, 1798, had received the thanks of his commander, Sir Thomas Threapson, for his very distinguished services, before the fatal blow had laid him down in death. He was of Pott Shrigley, in Cheshire, the youngest of two brothers, in whom the ancient family became extinct, the elder brother died in the early part of the present century childless, and thus ended a race of whom the county could boast, for it had been settled there for more generations than can be authentically recorded. In 1270 the ancestor of the gallant man whose death is recorded above acquired the estate of Pott Shrigley by marriage. How long before that time the family had lands in Cheshire is not known, but it is said, long before the conquest.

DRAYTON, JOHN DE, supposed by Blakeway to have been a native of Drayton in Shropshire, was chosen Abbot of Shrewsbury in the year 1278, being the eighteenth in succession. During the incumbency of this Abbot, the Archbishop of Canterbury made a metropolitan visitation of the diocese, and the King—Edward I.—in virtue of an Act passed in 1286 to prevent ecclesiastical persons from alienating the estates of their houses, commanded the Sheriff of Staffordshire to seize certain lands in that county conveyed by the authorities of Salop Abbey to one William de Merton. Thus early did the State in England interfere with the estates of the Church. Abbot Drayton died in 1291.

DUBRICIUS (SAINT) is mentioned, not for his sanctity, but for his eminence as a Herefordian by birth. The Rev. Rice Rees, on the authority of John of Teignmouth, and Benedict of Gloucester, says "he was born on the Wye in Herefordshire;" his father being Pepian, a so called king of Erchenfield, his mother Eurdila, daughter of Peiban, "a certain regulus of Cambria." Dubricius would thus be grandson to Brychan, who became sovereign prince of Brecknockshire about the year 410, and who, according to the Welsh Triads, "brought up his children, and grandchildren, in learning and the liberal arts, that they might be able to show the faith of Christ to the nation of the Cymry, wherever they were without the faith." This one grandson, at least, seems to have followed out the wishes of his grand-sire, for he founded divers colleges in Wales, and one at Henllan in his native county, where "the faith of Christ was taught to most members of his countrymen." Archbishop Usher states he was appointed bishop of Llandaff in the year 470; and Mr. Rees adds, "he was raised by Ambrosius to the Archbishoprick of Caerleon upon the death of Tremannus in 490." According to Registrum Landavence he was the first bishop of that see, and it is supposed he continued to hold it, even at the time he filled the higher office mentioned, at Caerleon. To him is assigned the high honour of having crowned the great king Arthur, and he is spoken of as the friend and companion of Arthur's trusted adviser, "Cattwg the wise." We cannot dwell upon the many services he rendered to his country, but it is admitted on all hands that he spent a long life in doing good. We read how in his old age "worn down with years, and longing for retirement, he withdrew to a monastery in the Isle of Bardsey, where he died in 522": his countrymen who

survived him, doubtless recounting from age to age all he had done for them. In the year 1120, one Urban, a Bishop of Llandaff, by the grace and favour of Prince Griffith, obtained permission to remove his remains from "the Holy Island" to Llandaff, "where they were interred, with great pomp and solemnity, in the cathedral, which had been rebuilt a short time before, from its foundation." Mr. Rees cannot understand how his relics were identified, for thousands had been buried in the Island between 522 and 1120, and all these bodies had been crowded into the spot where the saint was supposed to have been interred: "This is a problem," he adds, "which the author (of his life) has left unexplained," and so it remains unexplained to this day. We must take the story as we find it, satisfied that whether the honoured remains of St. Dubricius are still at Bardsey, or are removed to Llandaff, his name and fame blossoms as a rose, both in Wales and the Border-lands, as that of a holy and devout man, who, with heart and soul, served his own day and generation well.

DUKES, THOMAS FARMER, was born at Bridgnorth, Shropshire, in the year 1773. His celebrated work "Antiquities of Shropshire, from an Old Manuscript of Edward Lloyd of Drenwydd," was published at Shrewsbury in 1844, and will ever remain a monument to his industry, scholarship, and research. He died in 1850, and is buried at St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, where a fitting monument is put up to his memory.

DUTTON, ELEANOR, daughter of Thomas Dutton, of Hatton, in Cheshire, was born at that place in 1627. She is mentioned by Leycester as a "person of such comely carriage and presence, handsomeness, sweet disposition, honour, and general repute in the world, that she hath scarce left her equal behind." She had lived to become sole heiress to her ancient family, and married a Gerrard, but she died in 1663, aged 36 years.

DUTTON, SIR LAURENCE, a celebrated Cheshire man, born in the year 1347, had given abundant proofs of his valour upon numerous occasions, and properly held a very high and distinguished place among the leading men of his day. He appears to have died in the year 1392, leaving in his will twenty pence to each member of the four orders of religious brethren at Chester and Warrington. He seems to have been a sort of a trustee to the Nunnery of Our Lady at Chester, for he held lands in Lache, Claverton, and Chester on behalf of the Prioress of that institution.

DUTTON, THOMAS, a valiant Cheshire gentleman, living in the early part of the fourteenth century, acquired a very unenviable fame by abducting Margery de la Beche, a lady of rank, from her home at Beaumays, near Reading, on Good Friday in the year 1346. He, in company with Sir Thomas Arden, and a numerous following of armed men, visited the Manor House named, with the avowed purpose of carrying away this lady, and being resisted, they killed two of her attendants and wounded many others, forced the lady away with her valuables, and married her against her will to Gerard de L'isle, who was a friend of Dutton's. A warrant was issued for the apprehension of the offenders, but Sir Thomas Dutton made his peace with the King, and was pardoned upon giving sureties for his future good behaviour.

DUTTON, THOMAS, another of the "Minstrel family" of that name was born at Dutton, in Cheshire, and is mentioned by Mr. Bruen, of Stapleford, as his cousin who had been "pressed and charged by some of great place to maintain his royalty of Minstrely, for piping and dancing on the Sabbath-day," but who upon being earnestly en-

treated not to comply with this demand "promised that all piping and dancing on the Sabbath should cease both morning and afternoon; so his licences were made, and so they continue to this day." What a lesson have we here to the new sporting school in religion, who would bring back into common use in the nineteenth century the Sunday pastimes our holy ancestors of the seventeenth took so much trouble to put down!

DUTTON, WILLIAM, born in the neighbourhood of Chester in or about the year 1724, is supposed to be the writer of two pamphlets published by W. R. in 1763, on "The best mode of farming land." He was of poor parentage, his mother being one Jane Rowe, and W. R. is said to stand for William Rowe. He understood his business well enough, for his writings evince a thorough knowledge of the "Art of farming," that being in fact the object he had in view when he wrote them. No doubt there is an "Art" in this useful calling, but unhappily the artistic farmer is not a common personage even now, although enormous strides have been made within the present century in making the study of agriculture a science. Like many excellent men of the risen class honest William Dutton desired to be thought a man of consequence, and he claimed descent therefore from the ancient family of his name settled at Dutton. He had no connection with that family in a line approved of by the law, and thus he lost much of the respect, which his own natural abilities might have otherwise secured for him. Some of his descendants are still living in the neighbourhood of Chester, but none of them came up to their ancestor in native talent, nor have they derived much benefit from the theoretical views on farming propounded by their ancestor. He died in 1782.

DYCHAR, JOHN, a Shropshire man, was instituted into the Vicarage of Shawbury in the days of Queen Mary. At that time he was a Romanist, but if it be true that he held that living till his death in 1620 he must have changed his faith more than once, in appearance at least, or he would have lost his vicarage. His name comes down to us as the recorder of a scandalous story to the prejudice of Queen Elizabeth, who, according to a manuscript of his, found after his death in an ancient Latin Bible, had one, if not two sons, by her favourite Leicester. No writer of any authority has accepted this tale for fact, but it has been printed in several works, and no doubt was believed by some. Probably Vicar Dychar did not honour this Protestant Queen, and that he from malice put into writing the common talk of the day, for Elizabeth had offended many of her subjects by showing so much favour to Leicester. We can well believe how some of them delighted to speak evil of her, that great English quality, being more in harmony with men's wishes, than the Christian one of not speaking evil of dignitaries. Mr. Dychar has managed by his venomous pen to give his name a place in history, but we look in vain for any living records of his ministerial life at Shawbury.

DYMOCK, SIR THOMAS, or as he is named by some writers *Dinnocke*, flourished in the time of King Richard II., and has been claimed by Cheshire and Shropshire, as a son. Of the two, Cheshire would seem to be best entitled to him. He was a man of war, and shone as such among the gallant companions of John of Gaunt; he was of kin to the brave Sir John Salisbury of the king's household, who was most unjustly put to death as a traitor. He is the renowned champion, who rode into the great hall at Westminster on the 13th of October, 1399, armed at all points, and caused a herald to make proclamation "that whoever would affirm King Henry was not lawful in-

heritor to the crown and kingdom of England, he was there ready to wage battle against him." That was the day upon which Henry Bolingbroke was crowned king of England under the name of Henry IV. This renowned "Champion of England" brings before us the whole story of poor unhappy Richard and his fall; the long string of accusations brought against him, and how by boldness on his own part, and intrigue on that of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Henry sat himself safely in the kingly seat, and then crossing himself upon the forehead, and upon his heart, called God to witness that he took upon himself the crown "for the good of the kingdom." It did not concern Sir Thomas Dymock who was king, his championship being a part of the ceremonial which, in her wisdom, England had thought fit to use when her kings took upon them the ensigns of their office. That ceremonial over, the brave old soldier put on the habits of daily life, and we may be sure that when called upon to serve his country in the field he would champion her fortunes as earnestly there as he had done those of the King amid the pageants and revelry of the feast at the great hall of Westminster.

FEBRUARY 19, 1879.

NOTES.

A WELSH DOCTRESS' BILL.—The following are among the very curious items of a Welsh doctress' bill, for the cure of a sore leg, and for the payment of which the patient was summoned before the court of requests at Shrewsbury:—

	s.	d.
For lancia and scalin the poune	10	0
For pills aurea, giltet with golt	7	6
For trams and cordivolls for hur an company	7	6
For lodgen an attendance upon hur... ..	2	6
For runnin away an hindrin me to hav time to cur her to perfection... ..	2	6
For envy, hatred, an mallis, and for uttring several false storees on me an my hous	10	6
For prakin the class in the class windos with hur horsis nose	1	0
	DNALWOR.	

BATTLE OF CHIRK BRIDGE.—As far back as 1876 you gave several references to the Cinder Hill Riots at Rhos and Chirk, which culminated on the 4th of Jan., 1831, in the Battle of Chirk Bridge. A ballad of the period, which you reproduced, showed how great were the apprehensions at Oswestry of an invasion by the colliers; and how large numbers of special constables were sworn in, and the North Shropshire Yeomanry were called out. From official documents I am able to present to your readers a list of the special constables, and some other particulars relative to the riots. First as to the constables:—

Dec. 22, 1830. At a meeting of the Magistrates [of the Hundred of Oswestry] held this day it was resolved. That it is expedient to swear in the out-pensioners as special constables for the Hundred of Oswestry. That it is also expedient to swear in all gentlemen, farmers, and respectable householders, and their workmen, to act also, in case they may be required, for the same hundred. Signed: Thos. Kenyon, Jas. Donne, G. N. K. Lloyd, J. V. Lovett, H. P. T. Aubrey.

Jan. 2, 1831. The following gentlemen were sworn special constables for one week:—Sir W. H. Clerke, Bart., Richd. Croxon, Esq., Edw. Croxon, Esq., Thomas Penson, Esq., Richd. Jones Croxon, Esq. Before us Thos. Kenyon and J. V. Lovett.

On the 3rd and 5th of Jan., 1831, the magistrates met to swear in specials, when the following attended and were sworn:—

William Hammonds, Griffith Morris, Richard Minshall, Robt. Richards, Joseph Jones, William Francis, Thomas Jones, Samuel Sides, John Vaughan, William Smeal, Abraham Morgan, John Jones, Charles Wilkins, Edw. Vaughan, Geo. Price, William Owen, jun. (pavior), Thos. Rogers (L. & R.), Edw. Edmunds, jun., Jas. W. Newcombe, Wm. Williams, Edw. Davies, Jno. Jones, Griffith Griffiths, Rich. Cross, Robt. Evans, Wm. Humphreys, Rich. Davies, Edw. Davies, Edw. Roberts, Edw. Davies, John Morris, Saml. Jones, Thos. Allen, Saml. Bickerton, Saml. Gittins, Saml. Pritchard, John Roberts, Rich. Morris, Robt. Jones, William Griffiths, John Thomas, Rich. Morris, Edw. Williams, Robt. Stanton, Chas. Thomas, Arthur Owen, John Phillips, Robt. Evans, Edw. Groom, Wm. Davies, Jno. Roberts, David Jones, James ter, Wm. Edwards, Robt. Jones, Stephen Windsor, John Evans, Thos. Jones, John Francis, Hugh Jones, Elias Phillips, Thos. Jones, Jno. Beckett, Mr. Churchill, Thos. Jarvis, Thos. Rogers (Stone House), Robt. Watkin, Jno. Jones, Thos. Davies, John Jones, Thos. Lewis, Robt. Oliver, John Painter, Thos. Morris, Jno. Jones, Samuel Sides, John Sides, Wm. Jaspur, Robt. Roberts, James Lowe, J. M. Hales, Jno. Tomkies, John Parry, Wm. Williams, Thos. Roberts, Jno. Jones, Thomas Hughes, Henry Crutchloe, John Lot, John Davies, Chas. Osborn, Chas. Lewis, Jno. Harrison, Jno. Green, Geo. Wright, Jas. Williams, Rich. Hughes, Wm. Bolas, David Davies, Jno. Jones, Edw. Hughes, Edw. Jones, Wm. Nightingale, Wm. Edwards, Rich. Edwards, Henry Wainwright, Rich. Wainwright, Geo. Farmer, Walter Broughall, Robt. Morris, Lewis Evans, Thos. Jones, Jno. Thomas, Wm. Owens, Will. Edwards, Edw. Edmunds (bricklayer), Edw. Humphreys, Chas. Stewart (fishmonger), Chas. Jones, John Mathews, Arthur Hughes, Lazarus Shone, Thos. Edwards (printer), Rich. Jones, Joseph Emblein, Isaac Robley, Thos. Hughes, Thos. Cadwaladr, Wm. Davies (schoolmaster), Joseph Jones, William Price, John Goodlen, John Hayes (plumber), John Lewis (saddler), John Morris, C. J. Hamner (shoemaker), John Evans, Geo. Gough, Thos. Rodenhurst, Jno. Williams, Rich. Tomkies, Saml. Brayne, Thos. Morris, David Jones, John Minett, J. S. Venables, Hugh Williams, Saml. Thomas, P. Cartwright, Esq., Wm. Farr, jun., Jon. Meredith, William Farr, E. F. Venables, John Davies (Maesbury Fields), Henry Hughes, Wm. Meredith, Wm. Lewis, Jas. Thomas, John Warren, Thos. Jones, Geo. Foulkes, Thos. Lloyd, Rich. Crowder, John Roberts (higgler), Rich. Worton, Edw. Edwards (wheelwright), Rich. Lewis (batter), Robt. Lloyd (shoemaker), John Morris (butcher), John Jones, jun., Saml. Jones (assistant overseer), Richd. Thomas, Wm. Mellor, Edw. Edwards (solicitor), Edw. Payne (Maesbury), Chas. Jones (land-surveyor), Wm. Lloyd (skinner), John Davies (at Mr. Ed. Croxon's), David Jones (ostler, Red Lion, — discharged, not having attended duty on either day), Robt. Morrall (solicitor), Thos. Williams (shoemaker), Saml. Vaughan (slater), Thos. Jones (excise officer), Thos. Stanton (watchmaker), Rich. Bill (ironmonger), Edw. Price (Treffach, blacksmith), Evan Williams (Llansilin, labourer), Edw. Baker (shoemaker), Edw. James (do.), Rich. Rogers (Whittington, joiner), David Vaughan (sawyer), Wm. Geo. Davenport (hairdresser), William Rogers (artillery), Godfrey Roberts (at Mr. E. Croxon's), John Jones (at do., waggoner), James Roberts (stone mason), Rich. Morris (plumber), Wm. Wilton (tailor), Thos. Roberts (tailor), Wm. Bynner (tailor), Thos. Williams (Broomhall, labourer), Thos. Jones, Esq. (Brook-st.), John Edwards (ass follower), John Edwards (labourer), Jno. Vaughan, jun. (sawyer), Robt. Andrews (labourer), Jas. Bentley (fire man), William Marsh (Pant, labourer), Edw. Morgan (Morda, labourer), Edw. Smith, rope maker, Thos. Roberts, Llys Lane, labourer, W. B. Faune, gent, Edw. Thomas, fireman, Thos. Thomas, slater, David Evans, shoemaker, Thos. Evans, Henged, labourer, John Evans, joiner, Saml. Oliver, tailor, Henry Francis, turner, Edw. Williams, shoemaker, Jas. Williams, do., John Hughes, do., Edw. Williams, labourer, Wm. Jones, bricklayer, Thos. Judson, jun., butcher, Wm. Francis, glazier, Jno. Humphreys, sawyer, John Tomkies, constable, Rich. Owen, bricklayer, Rich. Hopkins, maltster, Wm. Wright, shoemaker, Wm. Edwards, hairdresser, David Williams, tailor, Thos. Williams, shoemaker, Thos. Jones, do., John Thomas, bricklayer, Jas. Roberts, stonemason, David Jones, tailor, David Watkin, do., John Jones, sawyer, Owen Roberts, bricklayer, William Hughes, Gobowen, Edw. Rogers, Willow-st., Rev. John Phillips, Llanyblodwell, David Hamer, Glanrafon, gent., Thos. Evans, Esq., Llwynygroes, John Edwards, Abertan Hall, John Davies, Llwynytidnam, miller, Edw. Poole, Trepennal, farmer, Geo. Savage, Llwynytidnam, farmer, John Humphreys, do., farmer, Mr. Wm. Ward, Llany-

blodwell, Allan Macdougall, butler to T. N. Parker, Esq., (for 6 months), Thos. Pierce, footman to do. (for do.), J. R. Kynaston, John Venables, jun., Whittington, Edwards, Williams and Owen of Porkington.

In *Bye-gones*, Sep. 20, 1876, BEN STARCH stated that 500 special constables were sworn in, who were armed with bludgeons cut for the purpose in Porkington Park. The official list, though it does not give so many, contains quite sufficient names to shew that no ordinary excitement prevailed. Amongst the list of names those who are living now must be very few. JARCO.

QUERIES.

OSWESTRY IN COACHING DAYS.—Are there any amongst the readers of *Bye-gones* able and willing to give us some records of Oswestry in the old coaching days? Names of coaches, coachmen and guards — incidents of the road — something about the coaching-houses and their landlords, &c., &c., &c. If such as remember would only put down what they know; and such as remember what their fathers told them on the subject, would record their recollections, several titles would help to put the present generation in possession of much, I am sure, that would be of interest. NEMO.

A SHROPSHIRE VEGETARIAN.—Thoughtful people have long come to the conclusion that even moderate drinkers, as they are called, take more alcohol than is good for their healths, and the depression of trade the nation is now feeling has brought prominently before the public the question of vegetarianism. There is no doubt we all eat too much animal food, and the working-class, in good times, waste more than they consume. An example of a fine hale old gentleman who was sparing in his consumption of butchers' meat and beer, is given in the *Salopian Journal* of Dec. 14, 1803, as follows:—"Died on Thursday last Mr. George Crank, of this town, aged 91 years, formerly a clothworker. He was a very abstemious man, living principally on vegetables, eating very little animal food, and drinking nothing but water and milk from his earliest years." Mr. Crank was considered an eccentric man, for one reason because he never wore a hat, save when he went to church; but a high tribute is paid to his clear judgment on all questions; and he seems to have died very highly respected by his fellows. SCROBBES BYRIG.

COEDYRALLT.—Can any of the readers of *Bye-gones* give a correct account of the steps on the top of Coedyrallt Rock? The account I have heard is, that a good number of years ago a young man and woman were walking along the top of the rock, going to a merry-making to be held at The Court, then a public-house, which could be seen from the top of the rock, when the young woman began to jump, wishing, in a joking way, that she could go that way, instead of going all the way round. The young man then came behind her, and gave her a push over the edge of the rock, which would be a fall of thirty or forty feet. It seems that the man had a good (or a bad) reason for wishing her made away with, but the strange part of the story is yet to come: on arriving at The Court who should be the first to meet him but the woman he had pushed over the rock. It is said that the man left the place at once and was not heard of for many years. It seems that the wind got under the woman's clothes and so let her gently down among the tops and branches of the trees, so that she got down without much hurt, and at once made the best of her way to The Court by a much shorter way than the man would get. Anyhow the steps or tracks are kept up on the top of the rock and may be seen by any one going there. ROCK BRID.

REPLIES.

LLANFYLLIN MEETING (Jan. 29, 1879).—"David Evans," mentioned as a steward, with Sir Watkin, of this meeting, was of the Vownog, Llanfyllin. His kindness of heart and genial manners were largely inherited by his son, the late W. Evans, Esq., of Glascoed. CYFFIN.

Mr. David Jones, The Green, Llanfyllin, has in his possession a small silver cup, won at Cefn Bran races, by a horse belonging to one of his ancestors. Perhaps some of your readers may be able to give account of more of the silver cups won at these races. A.B.

CHURCH AND KING RIOTS AT WREXHAM (Feb. 12, 1879).—We are informed in Jones's *Wrexham*, published by Potter in 1859, that—

The chapel in the middle of Chester-street, formerly belonging to the Presbyterians, and now to the Independents, is the third building which has stood upon the present site. The first was destroyed in the Church and King riots, consequent upon the progress of Dr. Sacheverel to his living at Bridge-north (sic). The sympathies of the town were, at that time, with the Pretender, and it is said that Sir W. Williams (sic)—afterwards Wynn—played a double policy in the desertion of the Meeting House: that he brought a mob of colliers to the town to participate in the work of demolition, and kept them in reserve at the top of Penybryn: and next that he employed his influence, as an adherent of the Pretender, to dissuade the rioters from their violence. The dissenters, to this day, speak with affection of his approaching the mob, cap in hand, and entreating them to disperse.

Mr. Jones is wrong here, I think, in connecting the name of Dr. Sacheverel with the Wrexham riots, that gentleman's "progress" having taken place nearly half a dozen years earlier, and in a previous reign. He is also wrong in presenting the living of Bridgnorth to the doctor. Selattyn, near Oswestry, was the place, and an ancestor of the Lloyds of Aston was the patron. Mr. Jones is not right, either, in stating that "Sir W. Williams—afterwards Wynn" addressed the colliers, as that gentleman did not take the Williams baronetcy until 1740, on the death of his father who resided at Llanvorda. He had previously assumed the name of Wynn, so, in point of fact, he never was "Sir W. Williams." N.W.S.

CURRENT NOTES.

A dwelling-house at Ludlow of some historical interest was offered by auction, by Mr. Crosse, on Wednesday, Feb. 5. The property was the original residence of the clergy; and was given, with an endowment, by the Palmers' Guild in Ludlow in the sixteenth century, and has from that period been held in succession by the trustees of the charity organized by the Guild.

The parish church of Heallan was re-opened after a very extensive restoration on Friday, Jan. 31. The old fashioned high pews have been exchanged for open sittings and the chancel is now divided from the nave by a screen of Staunton stone. The new east window is filled with glass of a beautiful design, and two new windows have been placed at the west end, and filled with stained glass, the design of which is "partly floral and partly geometrical." The old entrance to the church has been enclosed by a handsome porch. The subscriptions received towards the restoration fund amount to upwards of £1,500. The total cost was £1,950. Mr. R. Lloyd Williams, of Denbigh, was the architect, and Mr. Daniel Sheen, of Chester, the contractor. The preachers at the opening services were the Dean of St. Asaph (in the absence of the Bishop through illness), and the Ven. Archdeacon Smart.

On Thursday evening, February 6, Professor W. Boyd Dawkins delivered a lecture at the London Institution, in which he gave a summary of what has been learnt from pit and cave explorations of the inhabitants of Britain during the later part of the later stone age, in whom we found many of the rudiments of the culture which we now enjoyed. Turning to the evidences as to where these people originally came from, the Professor said that the work of archaeologists on the Continent had shown that the Iberian, or as he would call it, Welsh race, was widespread over Europe. At fairs in some of the Welsh towns the Iberian element could be traced in some of the people who came to them from out-of-the-way places. St. Asaph was remarkable in this respect. In Ireland, too, small, dark men were to be seen, who, if put side by side with the Basque, could not be distinguished as regards type. The English who invaded the old "Welsh" or Iberians of our Islands, were, on the contrary, tall, fine people, with light hair and blue eyes, as was known from history. Although these old Welsh were driven to the mountain fastnesses there could hardly be a doubt that the raven tresses and flashing dark eyes we sometimes came across in modern English people were traceable to them.

FEBRUARY 26, 1879.

NOTES.

PRICE OF LABOUR IN NORTH WALES.

The following was the price of labour by the piece work at the end of last and beginning of this century:—

	Previous to 1800	1800 to 1810
Wheat thrashed by the flail ...2/4 to 3/2 per qr...	4/9	4/9
Barley do.....1/4 to 1/8	3/9	3/9
Oats do.....1/- to 1/1	2/8	2/8
Reaping wheat per acre from..5/- to 6/-	7/6	7/6
Mowing barley and oats.....1/- to 1/2	2/-	2/-
Mowing hay1/4 to 2/-	1/8 to 2/6	1/8 to 2/6

To the prices from 1800 to 1810 should be added the expense of "suppings" (i.e. milk boiled) for Threshers, and ale for Reapers and Mowers.

CYFFIN.

WELSH PROVERBS.—Mr. T. G. Jones of Llansantffraid, on page 310 of *Mont: Coll: vol. xi.*, gives in his list of Welsh Proverbs, "Po nesa i'r Eglwys, pella o Baradwys" (The nearer the church the farther from heaven), as originating with *Twm o'r Nant*, "a great satirist, and an observant person, in the last century." This was questioned a few weeks ago in *Notes and Queries*, and in that publication for Jan. 29, a correspondent quotes from Spencer, "To Kerke the narre, from God more farre;" and Mr. Edward Solly says, "Howell in his *Proverbs*, 1659, gives, under British or old Cambrian Proverbs (p. 40), "Po nessa at yt eglwys pella oddiwrth Brodwys." Mr. Hazlitt in his *English Proverbs*, gives 1548 as its earliest appearance in print. Ray says it is a French proverb, "Près de l'église loin de Dieu." Elsewhere I have seen it claimed as a Scotch proverb.

J.2.R.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Jan. 22, 1879.)

THE SPANISH ARMADA SCARE.

In the old records we have extracted from time to time from the Corporation Minute Books, we have given more than one list of the charters, weights, measures, seals, &c., handed over from the Bailiffs to their successors. We purpose giving further lists of these charters, &c., as they nearly all vary in small particulars. This week we go forward a few years to note a new element in the Corpor-

ation property, for the safe custody of which the Bailiffs were responsible. We refer to sundry warlike articles the Corporation seem to have acquired. The 'culivers' and 'moriens' referred to were probably part and parcel of the arms and uniform of a volunteer company raised at the time of the Spanish Armada scare. The first record is as follows :—

M'd, the xxiiith day of October 1593. That we John Trevor and Hugh Moris now Bayliffs of the Towne of Oswestre have receaved of Gryffyth Kyffin & Thomas Cowper late Bayliffs & these Armores followinge

Imprimis two corsletts

Itm. iiij^{or} Calivers with iiij^{or} morians wth flasks and towchboxes belonging to every of them.

Itm. vj^e swords and v^e daggers & iiij^{or} Gyrdles.

Itm. the lox and the nene charters wth all other boxes & writings according to the not and as they were Deliv^{red} to them the syd gryffith kyffin & Thomas Cowper the yere before.

Itm. ij^o seales to seale the bushells and pecckes.

Itm. one Iron halfe eln & one Iron yarde.

Itm. ij^o towne bookes wth all their belonging to the box and chest of the sayd towne.

Itm. the com'n towne seal of brasse.

It. one greate chayne of Iron, a payre of smale shackles one boult wth two fetters belonging to the saide boult one other pr. of shackles two other boultes wth three fetters all the whych above named p^{rc}elles wee confesse our selves to have receaved of the said Gryffyth kyffin and Thomas Cowp^r.

John Trevor.
Hugh Moris.

"Gryffyth Kyffin" mentioned here as one of the Bailiffs handing over these articles to his successors, seems to have been a careful and orderly person, for we shall see by the next extract that he looked after the "skouringe of the Armour" before he gave up the Corporation property :—

Receaved the yere aforesaid by me Gryffyth Kyffin one of the Bayliffs then for the towne by a cessment for the furnishing of a man for her ma^t's service to Ireland the some of nyne & flourtie shillings whereof I dispursed as foloweth

It. delyv^{red} to Eyan ap Edd glov^r—x s. to go wth the man to ye must^r the which money was delyv^{red} to Richard lloyd of Sweeney by the Justices.

It. for skouringe of the Armoure of the Towne to Richard ap Rob^t Smith—x s.

It. Delyv^{red} to the felow that was prest towards his diet xijd.

It. of pres money iiijd.

The rest being 27s. viijd. we John Trevor and hugh^e moris baylifs for the yere folowing do acknowledge the Receipt of and an accomptant for the xxviij^s. viijd. the sayd

John Trevor.
Hugh Moris.

These warlike appendages, with some trifling additions (as we shall see another week) are repeated up to the year 1601, when they seem to have dropped out of the Corporation belongings. ED.

QUERIES.

HENRIETTA RHODES, OF BRIDGNORTH.—In the *Gents: Mag:* for April, 1817, the death is announced of Mrs. Henrietta Rhodes, a maiden lady aged 61, the daughter of Mr. Nathaniel Rhodes gent., at an earlier period resident at Cann Hall in that town. In early life Miss Rhodes wrote poetry, and in 1811 pub-

lished a novel entitled *Rosalie*, in four volumes. In 1814 she issued a volume of Poems and Essays, by subscription, and amongst her subscribers "were the names of many of the first nobility and gentry of the land." According to the short notice from which this is summarized, Miss Rhodes, at the election at Bridgnorth in 1784, became an active politician, and "shone forth in animated zeal for her Naval Friend, who, however, was unsuccessful." Her novel of "*Rosalie, or the Castle of Montalabretti*," seems to have provoked criticism, and her "*Essays*" were somewhat antiquarian. She is stated to have had "a few particular friends in the higher circles, who were much devoted to her welfare," but she led a "recluse and solitary life, owing to her unhappy and changeable disposition." She died in East Castle St., Bridgnorth, on Feb. 28 1817. Was she a Salopian by birth? NEMO.

CRAIG HOWELL.—Is a spot called Craig-Howell, or Craig-Owen, still shown in Anglesea, as connected with the wars between Charles and the Parliament? "O.J.," who seems a somewhat prejudiced royalist, and very ready to believe in any amount of "atrocities" on the part of the Parliamentarians, relates some interesting passages concerning the wars in the pages of *Arch: Camb:* 1850. He says :—

Amongst others who fought for the King at St. Mary's Field was a substantial yeoman of the name of Howell, who resided at Wern Llanddona. This hero, when he found that the loyalist party was routed, and had fled for refuge to Beaumaris Castle, retired stealthily to the beach of that town, under the Green, and having turned one boat on the top of another over himself, he fired from his hiding-place on the besiegers, who were on the Green, until his ammunition was all spent. He then crept from between the boats, and reached the Friars unobserved where a servant was waiting for him with a horse, which he mounted, and rode towards home with all speed. However, by the time when he was on a part of his own land, called Mynydd y Wern, he was surrounded by a party of Parliamentarians, who seemed determined to take him prisoner; seeing which he urged his horse over a precipice, and was killed on the spot, or, perhaps injured greatly by the fall, and finished by the enemy at this very spot, under the brow of a rock called to this day Craig Howell or Craig Owen.

The writer goes on to say that the horse and its rider were buried together, and over the grave a mound of stones was raised which, until a comparatively recent period in the recollection of Mr. W. Owen, tenant of The Wern, were occasionally whitened over by the descendants of the loyalist hero. N.W.S.

REPLIES.

SHROPSHIRE INN SIGNS.—(Sep. 25, 1878). The "Coach and Horses" is not a Shropshire sign any more than it is one of any other county, but a writer on "*Signs*" in the *Gents: Mag:* calls attention to the fact that "the first coach ever seen in England formed part of the equipage of Henry Fitzalan, the last Earl of Arundel, of that name, who died in 1579." If this is so then may Shropshire, and especially Oswestry, claim the sign emphatically as its own. "Coaches," says the same writer, "were invented by the French, as was the Post-chaise also, which was first introduced into England by the son of the well-known writer on husbandry, Mr. Jethro Tull." FITZALAN.

THE BATTLE OF CHIRK BRIDGE (Feb. 19, 1879).—Special constables sworn, and yeomanry in attendance, Oswestry was ready for its collier invaders. They did not come, however, so the Yeomanry went out to Chirk to look for them, but found no foe in the field. The prompt action on the part of the North Shropshire

Yeomanry Cavalry seems to have been duly appreciated, and a meeting of the inhabitants of Oswestry was called to pass a vote of thanks to their colonel. The official minute of this is as follows :—

Jan. 8, 1831. At a meeting of the magistrates and inhabitants of the town and liberties of Oswestry held this day; it was resolved; That their unanimous and most cordial thanks be conveyed to Sir Rowland Hill and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the North Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry for the promptitude and zeal evinced by them in assembling together at Oswestry on the shortest possible notice in the instance of the late threatened disturbances. For the manly and steady conduct displayed by them in the execution of their duty when assisting the magistrates of the neighbourhood in the suppression of riot and tumult. And also for the very orderly and proper behaviour which has distinguished the corps on this and every former occasion when quartered in the town. Thomas Lovett, mayor, P. Cartwright, coroner, Th. L. Longueville, Rich. Croxon, John Jones, jun., John Jones, Edw. Edwards, Edw. Edwards, Robt. Morrall, James Lowe, Wm. Hammonds, Jas. Knight, G. Cooper, Chas. Lewis, overseer, Edw. Williams, Jas. Williams, Thos. Hunt, W. Bolas, Chas. Osburn, F. Lucas, H. Hughes.

In addition to the vote of thanks by the inhabitants assembled, the magistrates of the hundred also passed the following resolution :—

The Magistrates of the Hundred of Oswestry assembled the 9th of January, 1831, beg to return their sincere and most grateful thanks to Sir Rowland Hill and the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the North Shropshire Yeomanry Cavalry, for the alacrity and zeal evinced by them on the late occasion when their assistance was required in consequence of the riotous proceedings which have taken place in this neighbourhood. (Signed), Thos. N. Parker, H. P. T. Aubrey, J. V. Lovett, W. O. Gore, William Lloyd.

In reply to this Sir Rowland Hill sent a letter to the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, in which he expressed himself "much gratified by the approbation the magistrates of Oswestry have expressed of the conduct of the Yeomanry when in that neighbourhood." JARCO.

OLD FOLKS (Feb. 12, 1879).—Died at Berriew, Montgomeryshire, Feb. 25, 1818, Richard Booth, aged 107. "He retained the use of his faculties to the last, and could read the smallest print without the aid of glasses." Here is a case so comparatively recent that one would like to know what the Berriew registers say on the subject. It may be they would tell of the birth as well as the death of Booth. SCEPTIC.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Feb. 12, 1879).

EARDSWICK, RICHARD, a Cheshire man by birth, and a lineal descendant of Hugo de Vernon, the first baron of Shipbroke. He is deserving of mention, as a great benefactor to religion in the early part of the fourteenth century. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir James Stafford, who by her mother was a lineal descendant of William Malbedeng, first baron of Stockport. This union of two very great houses gave Mr. Eardswick a consequence which counted for much in the days when descent stood for more than wealth. Mr. Platt states that this union was commemorated upon a scroll on one of the windows of Nantwich Church, thus :—"Richard Eardswick and Margaret, 1338," but he does not say how valiant and distinguished a man Mr. Eardswick was accounted to be, nor that traditionally he was spoken of in the early part of the present century, as a person whose fame had lasted for more than five hundred years.

EATON, JOSEPH, a native of Chester, who lived to a great age, and was well known as "Old Joe Eaton." His

early life was full of incident, but that we pass over. He was educated at the King's School in his native city, and becoming a Sizer of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, he took his degrees of B.A. and M.A. He was ordained at Chester by Bishop Cleaver, and made a Minor Canon soon after, and Chapter Clerk in 1813. He held the livings of St. Michael's, St. Olave's, and St. Oswald in succession, and in 1827 that of Handley, in the same county, which he retained till his death. If Chester has had sons who could write out her curious history well, she never had one who could tell it better than this gentleman was able to do.

EDDOWES, RALPH, has left a name that should for ever be held in remembrance by his fellow citizens of Chester. He loved above all things the liberty of the subject, and believing as he did that this principle was trodden under foot by men in authority, he obtained, in 1784, a quo warranto against the then Mayor and other Corporate officers of Chester, to show cause by what authority they held their offices. Out of this came a great trial at Shrewsbury, where the officials were defeated; a new trial in the King's Bench followed, when the former judgment was reversed, and then an appeal to the House of Lords, when Mr. Eddowes triumphed. A very ungrateful people permitted him to pay out of his own pocket the costs of these proceedings, and he, smarting under a sense of wrong, left England for America, where we may hope he found "liberty" something better than a name, and his new neighbours possessed of a nobler nature than those he had left behind him in the old country.

EDLESTON, RICHARD CHAMBERS, born at Nantwich in 1816, was passionately fond of field sports and became an acknowledged authority upon all matters connected with coursing. He was the founder of the Three Counties Union Club; and in Cheshire his name will be remembered with respect, for the efforts he made during the potato famine to prevent the spread of that terrible infliction. The public feeling displayed itself in the presentation of a piece of plate to him for his untiring efforts to benefit the poor, and also the farmers who had suffered through the disease, and although he did not please every one, his character, and his usefulness in his own particular walk in life, justly entitles him to a place among "Cheshire Worthies." He died in 1871.

EDWARD THE FOURTH, King of England, was born at Usk Castle, Monmouthshire, and was proclaimed king, 5th of March, 1461, in the lifetime of Henry VI. In 1475, he invaded France, but not finding the support he had expected from his continental allies he made peace with the king of that nation and returned to England. He died the 9th of April, 1482. The history of his life is a strange chapter in the records of our nation, but it would occupy far too much space to dwell upon it in these pages; we may be allowed however to commend it to special notice, as a study of great interest.

EDWARDS, FRANCIS, born at Shrewsbury, 1643, must be mentioned as a curious instance of the way in which honours sometimes come to men. His father, Thomas Edwards, had been made a baronet in 1644, but by some neglect the patent had not been enrolled. We presume that upon the death of the father the son had to make some declaration before he could assume formally the honours of his house, and then probably the mistake alluded to was found out. In 1678 a new patent was issued, under which the son became a baronet, but with this strange proviso—*with remainder to his father's sons, and precedence over all baronets created after 1644.*

EDWARDS, GEORGE ROBERTSON, was born at Aldford, Cheshire, in the year 1807, and in 1820 he was sent to the Manchester Grammar School for his education, where he eventually became head of the school. He proceeded to Brasenose College, Oxford, where in 1830 he graduated B.A., and was ordained in the same year to the curacy of Chirk in Denbighshire. He afterwards held preferments in Cheshire and in Yorkshire until the year 1854, when Sir Vincent Corbet presented him to the Vicarage of Shawbury, in Shropshire.

EDWARDS, HUGH, born in Shropshire, it is said. Being a younger son, he repaired, early in life, to London, for the purpose of engaging in commerce, and in 1549 he was a mercer there. In that year Edward VI. granted to him and another certain tenements and gardens at Shrewsbury, part of the dissolved College of St. Chad, in that town. In 1551 he was at Shrewsbury engaged in obtaining the foundation of the Free Grammar School, and Mr. Blake-way thinks that in 1562 he was Warden of the Drapers' Company there. Be that so or not, to him is greatly due the honour Shrewsbury has derived from her noble school; and we are content that his fame should rest upon that fact alone.

EDWARDS, MORGAN, who was a native of Monmouthshire and an ordained minister among the Baptists, settled in Ireland, and remained there for some years. In 1761 he went to America, and became minister of a church at Philadelphia. He appears to have been a remarkably useful man, not only in this country, but also in America. He collected together the History of the Baptists in that country, dividing them into twelve circuits, and each circuit had a separate account of its own. The first was published in 1770, and he was then 47 years of age, and had been a preacher for 32 years, so that he must have commenced his mission when quite a boy. He evinced a love for historical research long before he left his native land, and some of his productions are said to have been published in Ireland.

EDWARDS, PETER, who ministered for many years at Wem, as pastor of the old Independent Church in that town, was a native of Oswestry, although often claimed by the Welsh. He was a remarkable man, learned, logical, and well read in theology. He had been a Baptist, but had left that body, and publishing his well-known "Candid Reasons," for doing so, gave great offence to his old friends, who ever afterwards called him "the Weathercock." The writer saw him some time before his death, at the residence of Mrs. Williams (mother of Sir J. B. Williams) when that admirable old lady recited the well-known lines in praise of the Women of Wem:—

The Women of Wem and a few Musketeers
Beat the Lord Capel, and all his Cavaliers.

Upon which Mr. Edwards, by way of set off, repeated another local ditty thus:—

The new Church of Wem, and the old steeple,
A drunken parson, and a wicked people.

He died in 1833.

EDWARDS, ROGER, who died in 1684, must always be kindly thought of by natives of Monmouthshire; for regarding the comfort and happiness of his countrymen he founded a school and almshouses at Usk for the benefit of future ages. The rental of this charity approaches £450 per annum, and a good English and classical education is provided for all who attend the upper school, and the usual elementary knowledge is taught to children who attend a lower school supported by this charity.

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The founder was a very good, pious man, and some Welsh verses in his honour were printed soon after his death.

EDWARDS, THOMAS, born at Shrewsbury, 1555, may claim a place in these records, as the son of Hugh Edwards, who had done so much for that town. In 1589, he was chosen one of the Bailiffs, and upon a dispute arising as to whether his dwelling-house be in the liberties of the town, it was agreed that in consideration of his having taken upon him the office, that neither he nor any of his heirs inhabiting the said house should at any time thereafter be elected into the office of bayliff without their consent, until the matter then in dispute had been settled by two referees, "being councillors at law." *Wise* Salopians, who thus preferred arbitration to legal proceedings, and we may hope, grateful ones too, for it would have been unseemly to have returned the good done unto them by the father, by evil usage to the son, who evidently had a soul far above the office they tried to force upon him. He died in 1634.

EDWARDS, WILLIAM, born near Wellington, Shropshire, in the year 1785, is one of the many remarkable men who, by honesty of purpose, native talent, and great personal industry have succeeded in bringing themselves into notice in England, notwithstanding their humble birth, and the want of early training. He spent his youth in labouring as a mechanical engineer, and afterwards joined his brother in business at Wellington, where, in 1822, he succeeded in devising a plan for lighting their shop with coal-gas. This he did without understanding how it had been effected elsewhere, and is entitled therefore to all the credit due to an original designer. In 1823 he put up works to supply the central part of the town with the same light, and in quick succession, Brosely, Whitechurch, Wrexham, Ludlow, Stafford, and Bridgnorth availed themselves of his services in supplying those places with artificial light. His reputation as a knowledgeable man in practical engineering gained for him the confidence of the public, and "The Schemer," as he was called, had thus a local name of no mean merit. In his humble way, therefore, he was a public benefactor, and having served his day and generation honestly and well, he died in 1863, at the ripe age of seventy-eight, justly honoured by his friends and neighbours for his character, and by many others who respected him for his works' sake.

EDWARDS, WILLIAM, a Cheshire man by birth, but of Welsh descent, was Mayor of Chester in 1636. This honour had given him a position of influence in the neighbourhood, and this he used on behalf of the Parliament, and against the King, who had been his master. He adhered to the lead of Sir William Brereton, and accompanied that officer in 1643 to Hawarden, when that fortress surrendered to the Parliament. When Chester surrendered in like manner in 1646, he was appointed colonel of the forces who took charge of the city, and being made mayor, he became invested with both the civil and the military authority. We may hope that he did not use his great powers to the prejudice of a people who, if loyal, had given abundant proofs of their readiness to suffer in a cause which had been very dear to them, and who held out for their sovereign in a bold and brave spirit to the very end.

EKINS, GEORGE, a Cheshire man who was born near Nantwich in the year 1542, is supposed to have descended from an old family long settled upon the borders of Cheshire and Staffordshire. He was a Romanist, and went to France to reside, where he taught English to the sons of refugees. There is a person of his name mentioned

in a curious old Latin missal, as having died at Amiens in 1601, but no trace of his nationality nor of the age at which he died is given there. Dr. Elkins, at one time Dean of Carlisle, claimed kindred with him, but in a pedigree of his family, there is no mention made of this gentleman.

ELKINS, JEFFERY, an English divine, born in Cheshire and educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, where he took his degrees in Arts, and obtained a Fellowship. He was rector of Sedgfield for some time, then of Morpeth, and lastly Dean of Carlisle. He wrote a poem on the nuptials of George the Third and Queen Charlotte, inserted in the Cambridge verses on that occasion, and he also translated from the Greek of Apollonius Rhodius "The Loves of Medea and Jason," published in quarto, 1771. He died 1791.

EGERTON, PETER, a Colonel in the Parliamentary Army during the Civil War, is said to be the third son of Sir John Egerton, of Oulton Park, Cheshire, and a native of that county, but this has been doubted, chiefly, however, upon the ground that the Egertons of Oulton had supported the King. That argument has no force, for unhappily in that struggle men took sides according to conviction, and blood relations often met on opposite sides upon the battle field. Colonel Egerton was appointed by General Sir Thomas Fairfax to manage the siege of Lathom House, in Lancashire, when Charlotte de la Tremouille, Countess of Derby, immortalized herself in its brave and gallant defence. The attack was conducted by Colonel Egerton in a soldierly and honourable manner. He did his duty earnestly, and just as an English gentleman should do it. Lines of circumvallation were laid, trenches dug, and all the approaches to the house guarded with extraordinary care, and by the 26th of August, 1644, all was ready for a general assault. It is stated that orders had been given to put all the *defenders to death*. We may fairly conclude that if so cruel an order had been sent down to the commander of the Parliament forces, he was too much of a gentleman to submit to it, and we know that for this or for some other reason Colonel Egerton was removed from his command, and his place taken by Colonel Rigby, who, from his personal animosity to the Earl of Derby, was a fit instrument to carry out the cruel ordinance of his superiors. Prince Rupert, however, compelled him to raise the siege, and thus England was saved from the disgrace of putting the noble Countess of Derby to a cruel death. We find no reference to Colonel Egerton after this event, but his conduct as a soldier and his honour as a gentleman combine to entitle him to a grateful remembrance among Cheshire worthies who honestly followed their sense of duty, regardless of what should happen to them personally, so long as they were able to defend their honour against attack.

ELISHA, SAMUEL, a Salopian and an attorney practising at Shrewsbury, is mentioned as one of the ensigns appointed in 1715 to officer an artillery regiment, "Raised by the inhabitants of that town to defend it against the rebels," but he comes down to us with a higher recommendation, as that of a gentleman who had bestowed much attention on the history of the town, his "papers on which subject, having been usefully employed by Blakeway and Owen in their great work upon Shrewsbury." The readers of that admirable history will have seen how much the authors have been indebted to manuscript accounts of local writers, and we cannot therefore sufficiently honour gentlemen like Mr. Elisha, who had taken some trouble in preserving the early records of their native counties from destruction.

ELKES, THOMAS, a very infamous native of Shropshire, is mentioned by Gough as having, when guardian of his brother's child, put him to death that he might succeed to his estate, which was valuable. The child being missed, search was made for him, and it soon transpired how his death had been brought about. Elkes fled, and having hid himself in a hay stack, the persons in pursuit were led to the spot by an unusual noise made by two ravens, who sat upon the stack and kept pulling the hay about. When taken he said that the ravens had followed him from the time he put his nephew to death, and having been tried and condemned for this foul offence he was hung in chains on Knockin Heath, where the murder had been committed. In a curious broadside the whole story is told in verse, but the rhyme is somewhat halting, and the merit of it not of the best.

ELLIS, WILLIAM, who in 1732 published "The Practical Farmer, or Herefordshire Husbandman," is claimed by several counties as a son. There is evidence to show that he was born in Herefordshire, although some assert that this should read Herts; that, however, arises from his residence in the last-named county in 1737, when he published "The Complete Planter and Cyderist." He was a most observant and well informed man; had studied "the properties of the soil" long before that art had become a science. His knowledge of trees and plants enabled him to apply the two things to useful purposes, and in the two works already mentioned we have the result of his "cogitations," and many useful hints that have been profitably acted upon by farmers and planters. The date of his death is uncertain.

EVANS, DAVID, a native of Monmouthshire, appears to have cast his lot among the Baptists of that county, at a time when the powers that be, and even the powers that had no legal authority, combined to persecute these innocent and well meaning people. He left his native land and settled in America, "the home of the free," in so far as religion was concerned, and about 1750 he was known in that country as Captain Evans, holding a commission in the militia. He wrote several letters from Pennsylvania to friends in Monmouthshire, and it is worth notice *all in Welsh*; a sure proof that at that time the natives of that county retained their early Cambrian habits and the common use of the old language.

EVANS, HUGH, born upon the Welsh borders of Shropshire, and who in 1650 was appointed to be an itinerant preacher in Radnor and Brecon, was a most godly and excellent man, but he was strict in his views and much opposed to the Quakers, one of whom published a pamphlet against him, entitled "The blind Welsh priest of Radnorshire." He lived for some years at Worcester and afterwards at Coventry, but in his heart he yearned for the Welsh, and in 1646 he settled at Radnor, probably to minister to the people in religious matters. He died in 1656.

EVANS, MICHAEL, was born in Herefordshire, and in 1671 proceeded to Oxford from Westminster School, where in 1677 he took his M.A. degree. In 1702 he was made Prebendary of Westminster, and he added to this in 1710 the Vicarage of St. Bride's, London. There was some litigation about his appointment, but the merits of the case have no interest now. He died in 1732, aged 80, and at the time of his death he was Sub-dean of Westminster.

EVANS, RICHARD, a native of Fownhope, in Herefordshire, and son to John Evans, Canon of Hereford, deserves mention for his great eminence as a medical man, and his proficiency as a scholar and antiquary. He re-

sided at Ross, where his family of twelve children appear to have been born, their mother being Catherine Mynd, of the ancient family of that name settled at Hentland. Dr. Evans (for he was M.D.) had prepared some memorials of the antiquities of Ross, but what became of them at his death is not known.

EVANS, THOMAS, who was born at Mynyddislwyn, Monmouthshire, and educated at the Caermarthen Presbyterian College, is notable as a Dissenting minister who was ordained at Llanuwchllyn in 1745. He remained there for fifteen years, and did good service to religion in divers parts of North Wales, for there is hardly a hamlet or town that he did not visit upon his preaching tours, and in the history of North Wallan Dissent he is always mentioned with respect. He is supposed to have settled in Yorkshire as an English minister about 1761, and to have died there in 1779.

EVANS, WILLIAM EDWARD, youngest son of a well-known medical man, John Evans, M.D., of Llwynygroes, near Oswestry, was born at the Council House, Shrewsbury, in 1801, and educated at the Grammar School of that town, when it was under the distinguished mastership of Dr. Butler. He proceeded thence to Clare College, Cambridge, and having chosen the Church for his profession, he was ordained to the ministry, and served for some time as curate of Llanymynech, in his native county. We meet with him subsequently at Criggion, in Montgomeryshire, and Monkland, in Herefordshire, and in each of these places he did good service to the Church. When at Monkland he was made precentor of Hereford, and soon afterwards vicar of Medley with Tiberton, in that county, and in 1860 or 1861 Canon Residentiary of Hereford Cathedral. His name will be known to the reading public as the author of "Songs of the birds," "Sermons on Genesis," and "Family prayers." He died in 1869.

EWLOE, JOHN, a native of Chester, and Mayor of that city in 1405, and the three following years, was the son of one David de Ewloe, a native of Flintshire. Mr. Richard Llwyd, a great authority upon Welsh genealogies, states that the Ewloes were of Cheshire descent, but being supporters of Henry II., and the English interest in Wales, they had gained a settlement in Flintshire, and had thriven there. David Ewloe, was Mayor of Chester in 1381 and 1383, and probably favoured Richard II.'s party, as many Flintshire and Chester men did. The son, however, could not have been zealous in that interest, for Henry IV. was King when he was first chosen Mayor of his native city. Whether he took any part against Henry Percy's movements before the celebrated battle of Shrewsbury, and so commended himself to royal favour, and had afterwards changed sides, is not clear, but in 1409 he was removed from his office, and Sir William Brereton, a military man, put into it by the King, as a mark of his royal displeasure. Many Cestrians having favoured the opposite faction, the authorities doubtless gave offence to the Court, and the unhappy Mayor thus became a marked man, and suffered accordingly. The incident just alluded to gives some importance to John Ewloe's name, for it occurs at a time when the seeds of disaffection were being sown in England, to be succeeded by the long and bloody "Wars of the Roses," beginning at St. Alban's in 1455, and ending at Bosworth in 1485.

EYTON, THOMAS, or as he was styled in old histories, Thomas de Eyton, had descended from a very reputable family long settled in Shropshire, and he is supposed to have been born in that county and to have obtained the Deanery of Bridgnorth. Henry de Harley had applied

for and obtained this dignity in the second year of Edward III., upon the representation that Dean Eyton was dead, but that very reverend gentleman soon put his successor to flight by appearing in person before the King, upon which the grant to Harley was revoked, "with a special mandate for the restoring of the rightful dean to his office." There must have been a struggle for the deanery between the two deans, for we read how "the sheriff certified that both Thomas de Eyton, and Henry de Harley had raised great numbers of men in arms to dispute their respective rights," upon which the King commanded the sheriff to charge both parties to desist, and to appear in his Court of Chancery to have the matter enquired into. What came of the proceeding in that court we know not, but in the end Dean Eyton was restored to his own again, and we may hope enjoyed his dignity for many years afterwards.

MARCH 5, 1879.

RIXHAM.—In thanking "J. J." for his communication, we beg to inform him that the extract respecting the Fanatics at Wrexham, from Grammont's *Memoirs*, appeared in *Bye-gones*, Mar. 10, 1875 (see page 199 of Reprint for that year); and the letter from Mat Prior to Sir Thomas Hammer about buying a "nagg at Rixham fair" (quoted from Thackeray's *Humourists*) was given Oct. 27, 1877 (see page 302 of Reprint for that year). Except through inadvertence, we never publish the same thing twice in *Bye-gones*.

NOTES.

WELSH TROOPS FOR THE IRISH WAR.

Captain Ellis Maurice, whose name appears in the following communication, was the second son of Sir Wm. Maurice, of Clenenney, in Carnarvonshire, and of Porkington, now Brogyntyn, in Shropshire, and was born 1st of May, 1568. He married Jane, one of the daughters of Sir Wm. Mering, of Mering, co. of Notts. His father, William, afterwards Sir William Maurice, was elected to represent the county of Carnarvon in 1592, 1593, 1597, 1604, and the borough of Beaumaris in 1601, and was one of the Council in the Marches of Wales. He was a personal friend of King James I., and it was at Sir William's suggestion that that monarch assumed the title of "King of Great Britain" (see Reprint of *Bye-gones* 1873, page 211). In the printed Calendar of State Papers it appears that on December 18, 1606, Sir Wm. Maurice pressed in Parliament to have the King's title of "Great Britain" confirmed; and there is at Peniarth the original proclamation, supposed to be *unique*, whereby the King assumed that title.

The following papers exhibit an instance, very common at the time, of the indifference of persons as to the spelling of their names. Sir Wm. Maurice always signed his surname "Maurice," so did his son; yet the former, in endorsing his son's account and letter, writes it "Moris."

The accounts of Captain Ellis Morris appointed Conductor of fiftie souldiours by William Maurice, of Clenenney esquier one of her Ma'ts. depute lieftennants for the Countie of Carnarvon beinge the west parte of that shiere and have received at the Towne of Carnarvon within the Countie of Carnarvon aforesaid of Wm. Maurice esquier the fiftie men savinge the defects which was wantinge out of the three Comnotts of llyne with the Some of one hundredth three score and fifteen poundes bestowed by me the said conductour to the vse of the said fiftie men as followeth the xxviijth day of february last 1599 Anno R. R. xlij.

Imprimis Paid for presse & conduct when I was sent abroad by the said depute lieftennants to llyne Evioneth & Vchor. as by their names shall appere

Item Laied out vpon friday being the viij daie of february after vjd. a man	xxvijs.
Item Laied out vpon Saterdaie bing the ixth of feb. after xvij d. a man	ijli. xvs.
Item Laied out vpon mondaie the xjth of feb. after xij d. a man	ijli. xs.
Item Laied out vpon Wednesdaie the xliijth daie of the same after xij d. a man	ijli. xs.
Item Paied for ij horses & a guide to goe after Coronell St. John to the watersid beinge appointed Conductour generall ouer the Supplies for Ireland to knowe his plesure for my fittie men being come to (too) late.	vjs. viij d.
Item Paied for 3 peire of shues in Carnarvon for 3 souldiers that had none to weare.	vjs.
Item Paied for xj men insteede of those which were cast for vnsufficiencie & wantinge as will appere in which Commott the (they) were cast and wanted.	ijli. s.
Item Paied for the Souldiours diet before they entred into the Queenes paye for six meales.	iiij. xij. viij.
Item Paied to the Souldiours at shipboord for their farewell accordinge to our vse.	xxs.
Item Myne owne paie after vjs. per diem for xxiiij the daies.	viijli. iiij s. £37, 7, 4
Item Paid to the tresurer one hundred fiftie five poundes, countinge the Coate and conduct monie, so that there remayneth vnpaid xxli. to make up the Just proporcion after ijli. 10s. a man.	155 £
The names of those souldiours that went out of euerie commot with the names of them that were cast & wanted & the names of those that went in their Romes.	

I have omitted these names as uninteresting to the reader. The account is endorsed, in the hand of Sir Wm. Maurice, "Capt. Moris conductour, his accompe, for the 50 soldiers sent. . . . to . . . (Ch)est(er) febr. 99 (1599-1600) to be furnished per . . . iii co. (comotts) llyn." (Lleyn).

Extract of the copy of a letter in 1600, from Sir Wm. Maurice, Knt., one of the Deputy Lieutenants of Carnarvonshire, to the Lord Lieutenant of the County, relative to the muster of forces for service in Ireland. This copy is in Sir William's autograph.

And withall (wch is the efficient cause) the better sort of gentilmen have so many Retayners, and servants; and allsoe doe countenance other of their friends not to come to the musters, or being pressed or sent for do keepe them back; or yt. (that) more is, doe Rescue them from the officer or such as are sent for them.

There is also a letter from Captain Ellis Maurice to his father, dated from Chester in August, 1600, relative to some souldiers of whom Captain Maurice appears to have been commander, and who had not appeared in their full numbers. They were for service in Ireland, and were to be shipped from Chester for Lochfoyle, &c. The letter is endorsed in Sir William Maurice's hand, and he styles his son, "Capten Ellis Moris." It concludes "your obedient sonn Comaund Ellis Maurice." W.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Feb. 26, 1879.)

THE TOWN ARMOUR AND CHARTERS.

We have seen by the last instalment of the Records that Oswestry at the end of the sixteenth century added to its Corporation property certain military stores. We have another list of these conveyed with the charters to the bailiffs elected in the last year of the century, as follows:—

M'd. the iiijth day of November 1600 that we Hughe Morris and Thomas Ivesonne now Baylyffs of the Towne of Oswester have received of Richard Lloyd

and Richard Johnes late Baylyffes there these Armoures following
 Imprimis ij'o corselets w'th ij'o head p'ecs [pieces]; & ij'o goriettes [gorgets,] w'th ij'o swordes & daggers & ij'o calivers ij'o shackles w'th tuche-boxes j bullet bagge ij'o mowldes ij'o swordes & j dagger & ij'e head peeces.
 It. vij Charters & the booke of constituc'ons.
 It. j large pay booke wherein the Burgesses names are, w'th this booke.
 It. the Towne scales.
 It. ij'o sealles to sealle the bushels & pecke
 It. j Iron yard and j yron halffe elle.
 It. the boxe wherein the new charter is
 It. ij'o litle boxes wherein are c'rteyne wrytings w'th the towne sealle in one of them.
 It. the accomptes of Richard Micklestonne late murringer
 It. the Towne Chest.
 It. j payr Shackles
 It. one bowlt w'th ij'o fetters belonginge to the same.
 Hughe Moris.
 Thomas Iveson.
 Ric'd Wilyams.
 Richard Thomas.

The armour is again enumerated, with the charters, at the election of Bailiffs on the first year of the seventeenth century, in the following brief entry:—

- Memorand. the vjth of October 1601. that we John Blodwell and Edward Meredith nowe Baylyffs of the towne of Oswester have received of Hughe Moris and Thomas Iveson late Bailiffes there their p'ccelles of Armour following /
 Imprimis ij'o corselets w'th their headpeec's and two gorgyetts w'th two swordes and daggers ij'e Calyvers, three flasketts with tuch-boxes one bullet-bagg and ij'o moulde, ij'o swordes and one dagger and three head peeces /
 2. Item. vj Charters whereof two of them torne and the booke of constitucion with the confession for the lib'rties
 3. One Lardge pay booke wherein the Burgesses names are, with this booke
 4. The towne seale
 5. Two seales to seale bushells and pecks
 6. One yron yarde and one yron halfe elle
 The box wherein the Ch're is
 Two litle boxes wherein are certen wrytyngs
 [The bottom of the leaf is cut off here.]
 The town chest
 One bowlt w'th two fetters belonging to the same.

After this date we find no further reference to the armour, but as the list of muniments differs slightly in every record, we shall probably give further catalogues of the Charters.
 ED.

QUERIES.

YOUNG ROSCIUS'S CAKES.—It is stated in the *Salopian Journal* for Dec. 19, 1804, that "in honour of the birth-place (Shrewsbury) of the theatrical phenomenon, the manufacturers of *Shrewsbury Cakes* have given them the elevated title of *Young Roscius's*." Has any one ever seen a box so labelled?

SCROBBES BYRIG.

THE MAID'S PATTEN.—Some years ago while on a visit to a friend at *Carno*, he pointed out to me on a rock in the bed of the river marks which certainly bore a strong likeness to the tracks of a horse's foot, and a local tradition founded upon these appearances was firmly believed

in by the old inhabitants. I did not know then that the same story is told of similar marks found in the river Teme, nor do I now know which locality can lay best claim to be the true scene of the miracle. This is how the incident is described at *Ledbury*, and it differs in nothing but the name from the Carno tradition :—

A long time ago a holy woman dwelt at *Ledbury* whose name was Katharine Audley, and she was called St. Katharine. She came there with her maid Mabel ; and she stayed there because it had been revealed to her that she was to dwell where she heard the bells ring of themselves ; and she lived upon milk and herbs. Now she had a mare : and it came to pass that this mare with her colt was stolen ; and the saint prayed that the thief might be found by the tracks of the mare's feet. But the thief, fearing the prayers of the saint, had led the mare along the course of the brooks ; yet it was so, that on the stones of the brooks all the way were found the marks of the mare's feet, and of the colt's, and also of the pattens of the maid who stole them ; and so this wicked deed was made known, and the saint recovered that which she had lost. The most distinctly marked of the stones used formerly to be collected as charms or safeguards against robbery ; but less clear impressions are frequent in the main and smaller water-courses. On the fragment lately secured, however, the "colt's foot" is deeply and exactly defined, while near it as distinct a circular groove marks the "maid's patten," the nature and colouring of the stone showing plainly how the harder portions had resisted the action of the water. The story of St. Katharine's mare and colt was firmly believed in the district early in the present century ; and local antiquaries in papers read before their Societies forty or fifty years ago, while rejecting the element of miracle, yet referred the foot-prints to "antediluvian" animals, including apparently even the "patten"-wearing "maid," who, there is reason to fear, must have been the faithless domestic of the saint herself.

Has the Carno tradition ever been recorded in print ?

ROATH.

REPLIES.

NEWS AGENTS IN 1794 (Feb. 5, 1879).—In the *Wrexham Recorder* for December, 1848, is "A list of the clergy, merchants, tradesmen, &c., in the town of Wrexham, 60 years ago," (1788). I there see the names of Mr. Hughes, bookseller and stationer, and Mr. Marsh, printer and bookseller, both residing in High-street.

LANDWOR.

LLANFYLLIN MEETING (Feb. 19, 1879).—The late William Evans, Esquire, of Glascoed, had in his possession two silver cups, won at Llanfyllin (Cefn Bran), by his father's celebrated horse "Moloch," who I have been told won eighteen out of twenty races. The other cups he won were after the death of his owner, Mr. David Evans, converted into two coffee and tea services, one being now at Glascoed, and the other, I believe, at Brynaber. Two plates of the old horse were removed from Fownog, and are now on the stable doors at Glascoed.

CEFN BRAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Athenæum* says :—The remains of Mr. John Parry were interred on the 25th Feb., in the East Molesey Cemetery, after a choral service in the parish church. The deceased artist had a remarkable career, for after studying in Italy, when a pupil of Lablache, he commenced as a sentimental singer at concerts, accompanying himself on the harp. He next took to the stage at the St. James's Theatre, when first opened by the famous tenor, John Braham, and he sang in the opera "The Village Coquette," by Prof. Hullah and Charles Dickens. John Parry, however, could use his pencil, he was an admirable caricaturist, and he was also a first class pianist, so much so, that when he was delighting his friends in private, Harley, the comedian, suggested his starting the mono-

logue entertainments in which he was so popular for many years. His pleasant satire of amateur singing and playing was irresistibly amusing, and had a very beneficial effect, for from that time may be dated a vast improvement in the vocalization of domestic circles, while his skill as a pianist was an incentive to amateurs to improve their style.

A writer on "Agriculture in Wales," in the *Agricultural Gazette*, says, with respect to cursed fields, a conjuror living near Llanidloes, has, to his knowledge, carried on the practice of his profession for 15 years and more, and is consulted daily by clients from Cardiganshire, parts of Breconshire, Radnorshire, and Montgomeryshire, on all cases of cursed fields, bewitched horses, cattle, pigs, churns, backward lovers, bewitched women, &c. He has earned a small competency by his business, and now drives a well appointed horse, and he is known to the labouring classes throughout Mid-Wales.

MARCH 12, 1879.

NOTES.

LAND IN WALES, 1816.—In the supplement to the *Gents : Mag :* for 1816, we are told that "the recent reduction in the value of land in Wales is very considerable. A few days ago an improved estate, on which is a convenient residence, consisting of 125 acres of land in a fine sporting country, with timber upon it worth at least £200, was sold for £900, exactly the sum given for it 45 years ago." H.B.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY IN SHROPSHIRE.

Early in the century the Bible Society seems to have commanded far more attention in this county than it does in the present age. I have just been looking over the report of the annual meeting of the Shropshire Auxiliary held in Shrewsbury, in 1825, and find taking part in it the following gentlemen :—The Bishop of Lichfield, Archdeacon Corbett, Rev. T. Weaver, minister of Swan Hill Chapel ; William Cludde, Esq. ; Rev. C. A. A. Lloyd, rector of Whittington ; Panton Corbett Esq., M.P., Rev. Brian Hill, Rev. G. N. K. Lloyd, rector of Selattyn ; William Egerton Jeffreys, Esq., and other well-known names. Such a variety on the platform it would be hard to gather, I fancy, now-a-days. The report says that on the occasion there was "an array of Salopian talent beauty and rank congregated which far outvies anything we have ever seen drawn together for a similar purpose." It was the fourteenth anniversary. The report stated that nearly £10,000 had been subscribed in the county during the 14 years the auxiliary had existed. A new association, in connection with the County auxiliary, had been that year founded in Oswestry, and the previous "Ladies' association" at that place discontinued. SALOPIAN.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Mar. 5, 1879.)

We have previously shown how the lists of the Charters and other property varies in the old records. And in the lists that follow still further variations will be seen.

Ap'd Oswestree the xviijth die Decembris
Anno R.K. Eliz. octav.,

M'd, that this day John Trevor gent, one of the bayliffs of Oswestry John lloyd gent, lyftenant of the same And John Price clerk vicar of Oswystre have delyver'd in the open election the charters subscribed appt'raynd to the said towne wyth other wrytting to be safely kept to the use of the sayd towne.

1. In primo one short chart. granted by Willm. to sonne of Alen w'out dat.

2. It'm. An other chartr graunted by Thomas Erl of Arundell and, of Surrey dated the xxv. day of the monyth of Januarij Ano R.R. henrie quart. octav. &c.
3. Itm. An other chartr graunted by Will'm. Erle of Arundell and lord Matraurst. Dated the xxiiij day of october Anno R.R. Henri sixth xixth.
4. Itm. one other charter of lord Willm. Erle of Arundell Lord Mat'urst. Dated xx^o die, Octobris Anno R.R. Henrij octavi xviij^o.
5. Itm. an other charter of Thomas Erle of Arundell and of Surry dat. xxv day of Januarij Anno Henr^o quarti octo.
6. Itm. An other chartr granted by Thomas Erle of Arundell dated xxvj die menss februarij Anno R.R. Henri septimo xijo.
7. Itm. An other chartr graunted by Richard Erle of Arundell and of Surrye dated the xxv day of may Anno R.R. Ricardi sec. ijdo.
8. Itm. a release made of an hundred pounds made by Thomas Erle of Arundell to the burgesses of the towne. Dated xxv die Januarij Anno Henri quart. octav.
9. Itm. A feoffment made by Edward Erle of Arundell of two shoppes beyng yn the streat called begige streat to the burgesses of the said towne. Date die sancti mychaelis Anno V Edwardi the four of Edward xvij^o.
10. Itm. a letter Receaved from Henry Erle of Arundell that now is Dated at newe — the ijd day of June Anno R.R. Elizabeth septimo &c.
11. Itm. an other letter sent by the same Erle Dated the xxij day of november whereby he hath confesst an hundred marks of mysse due out of the said towne to the said Erle by the death of his noble father
12. Itm. a scroule [scroll] w'tout scale made by one gruffy the sonne of grum (?) w'tout dat.

m'd. ultimo octobr's Ao R.R. Elizabeth xij^o the chart'r & other writynge befor mencion'd were lost in the coffer in the com'on hall Richard Jones bailiffs & John ap Rys vaghan murynger.

Rychard lloyd
Rich'd Jones

Recevid of Alixander Staney the xvijth day of february ao R R Elizabeth. &c. xxx^o the sev'ral things subscribed according to An order taken before the Quenes Couns'll in the m'rches of Wales by Wm. gough & gruff Kyffyn gent Baylyffs

ffirst The ij Silver mases

Itm. the halfe ele and yard of Iron

Itm. One Charter beareinge dat xxvj^o die februarij Anno R.R. Henrici 7. xij^o

Itm. one Charter dat xxv^o Januarij A'o R.R. H : 4 : 8.*

Itm. one Charter dat xxv^o Januarij a'o sup'r deo

Itm. one Charter dat vicesimo die octobris a'o R.R. H : 8 : 7.

Itm. one Charter dat xxiiij^o Octobris a'o R.R. H : 6 : 19.

Itm. one Charter dat xx^o Apriles a'o R.R. H : 4 : 2 :

Itm. one Charter dat xxv^o Januarij a'o R.R. H : 4 : 8.

[*This charter is entered above, apparently]

Itm. one Charter dat xxv^o maij Anno R.R. R : 2. 2.

Itm. one little charter w'thout dat cont'g vij lynes.

Itm. ij Seales theon for burgesss the other for a peck

Itm. Stock locks

Itm. two bylls

Itm. one bushell bound w'th Iron and chayn hanging thereto

Alexander Staney

Apud Oswester xxj^o Daie October 1586

Ano R.R. Eliz. xxvij^o

Which daie Thom's Evance and David Edwards gent bayliffs of the Towne of Oswester have Res'd in the Com'n Hall or ellection house all these things that Ric w'm's & Thomas Kynaston late bayliffs wear charged as nowe appear upon this leaffe th' other syde hereof. but let it remembred also that the book of constitution lately had of the Earle of Arundel is in the custody of the said Mr Thomas Evance / & further whear we alwaies use to accompt & x charters and of the same app'reth to be but an aquitanc' under the seale of thearle of Arundel & the other but an instrument w'thout any seale hereunte.

Th : Evance
Edd Edwards,

also the same daie we receyved

ij paier of bowelts

ij paire of shck locke

i great yron chayne

i yron comm buyssell w'th a chayne thereunto

boults / locke / chaynes

& iron bushell now all p'r

Alexander Staney & Ric : M'croft.

(Signed)

Alexander Staney

Richard Mowcroft ye younger.

QUERIES.

ST. DAVID'S DAY.—On March 5, 1873 (see p. 142 of Reprint) you gave in *Bye-gones* an extract from some lines on St. David's Day in *Poor Richard's* (sic) *Almanac* for 1757. A fuller extract, incorporating these lines, was given by Mr. E. WALFORD, M.A., in *Notes and Queries* of Mar. 1, 1879, which he takes "at second hand from *Poor Robin's Almanac* for 1757." His extracts are as follows :—

"The first of this month some do keep,
For honest Taff to wear his leek ;
Who patron was, they say, of Wales,
And since that time cuts-plutter-a-nails
Along the street this day doth strut
With hur green leek stuck in hur hat,
And if hur meet a shentleman
Salutes in Welch ; and if hur can
Discourse in Welch, then hur shall be
Amongst the green-horned Taffys free."

"But it would make a stranger laugh
To see the English hang poor Taff ;
A pair of breeches and a coat,
Hat, shoes, and stockings, and what not ;
All stuffed with hay to represent
The Cambrian hero thereby meant ;
With sword sometimes three inches broad,
And other armour made of wood,
They drag hur to some public tree
And hang hur up in effigy."

Mr. Walford wants to know what is the meaning of hanging Taff, in his second extract, and I want to know whence he derives his information that wearing the leek on the 1st of March "has long been a national practice of the Welsh"? The passage from Shakespeare's *Hen. V.*, that he quotes, does not prove it. Mr. Walford is also at a loss to know what "cuts-plutter-a-nails" means. Can any of your Welsh readers give the origin and meaning of the expression ? NEMO (1).

OLD PATRIOTIC SONGS.—About the time of the Peninsular War there were patriotic songs sung in Wrexham, and elsewhere, that now-a-days, we only get snatches of from our elders. One I remember to have

heard, relating to the Denbigh militia, which commences thus :—

" 'Twas on the first of March my boys—
Saint David's day you know—
When first we got our colours ;
It was a gallant show."

Another commemorated the doings of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn's Ancient British Fencibles. One verse ran thus :—

"He was a noble gentleman,
A man of high renown,
Wynnstay was his dwelling-place
Near to Wrexham town.

CHORUS.

The light horse of Denbighshire,
So merrily we'll go,
With bold Sir Watkin Williams Wynn,
The val-i-ant he-ro!"

"Old Crust," the waiter at "The Fleece Club" was fond of singing this song, and "Billy Longtoes," a well-known 'pitcher-man' had it by heart. It is a pity these old ditties should be lost. Will some of your readers help to put the scattered fragments together? LANDWOR.

REPLIES.

WREXHAM RIOTS IN 1715 (Feb. 19, 1879).—In Oct., 1848 Mr. Samuel Kenrick, great-grandson of the minister who wrote the diary recording the Church and King Riots at Wrexham, published, verbatim, from the original the notes his ancestor made of the event. It differs slightly from the version you published Feb. 12. For instance it speaks of "Meeting houses" being destroyed, from which we may assume there were two, described as the "old" and the "new." The *Wrexham Recorder*, in which Mr. S. Kenrick gave the extracts, inclines to the opinion that the riot amongst the Tradesmen, spoken of as occurring on July 12, 1715, was occasioned by some of them keeping the anniversary of the defeat of James II at the Battle of Aghrim. The *Recorder* version contains one entry "M. R." does not give; as follows:—"Aug. 27, 1717.—Received from the Government, per Mr. William Travers, the Ten pounds which I lent towards the expence of re-building our Meeting-house." The entry of Mar. 28, 1716, has also an addition to it, the whole reading thus:—"The information against the rioters being removed by writ of certiorari, their trial came on at Salop, Edward Pul..... and David B..... The witnesses were H. Burton, Richard Ab..... Edward, Mary H..... and H. Dur....." A note is added to the effect that the diary makes no mention whether the rioters were found guilty or not. There is one passage from the diary "M. R." gives in *Bye-gones*, that is omitted in the *Recorder*, to wit, the one in which the outraged minister writes "Lord be not merciful to any wicked transgressors." I, for one, admire this entry. It is hearty, and human; and at a time when the chapels were being wrecked by a howling mob, a far more honest utterance than if he had shown the whites of his eyes and asked God to bless the marauders.

N.W.S.

OSWESTRY IN COACHING DAYS.

(Feb. 19, 1879.)

The *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette* of Saturday last, March 8th, 1879, contains an article on "Celebrated Coaching Houses," the Wynnstay Arms, Oswestry, being the subject of the sketch. As much of the information given has already appeared in *Bye-Gones*, we only give a

few extracts. The whole paper, we may observe, is highly interesting. Of Oswestry the writer says :—

Situated, as the town was, on the great road from London to Holyhead, it was but natural that stage coaches should have made their appearance in the town at a comparatively early date; and to Mr. Lawrence, of Shrewsbury, is the credit due of starting the first through Oswestry. The chief coaching house of the town was the Wynnstay Arms Inn in Church-street, nearly opposite the fine old parish church. In 1802, Mr. Leigh, from "Hockley House," became landlord of the inn, then known as the Cross Foxes, and in his advertisement he speaks of his house as being "on the great road from Holyhead to London, through Shrewsbury, which avoids Conway Ferry," &c. But this was before the great London and Holyhead road was opened. Mr. Leigh also announced "A stage-coach for the convenience of passengers, etc., daily, through Oswestry to Holyhead, London, Bath, etc." Mr. Hunt, landlord of the Cross Keys, likewise in his advertisement announced "A stage coach, etc., which travels daily through Oswestry to Holyhead, London, Bath, etc." It is very likely it was the same coach, for if it passed the Wynnstay it would also pass the Cross Keys. The royal mail stopped at the Wynnstay Arms in the early part of the present century.

In the days referred to here what is now the "Wynnstay Arms Hotel," was known as the "Cross Foxes Inn" or "Bowling-Green Inn." There were no hotels early in the century. Even the famous coaching house at Shrewsbury was known as "The Lion Inn."

Two other coaches ran on the Holyhead road simultaneously with the mail. They were called "heavy" coaches, and were due at Oswestry morning and evening. Of these, one was horsed at the Wynnstay Arms, the other, first at the Cross Keys, and afterwards by Mr. W. Bolas, at the Queen's Head. The first Chester coach was started by Mr. Leigh, of the Wynnstay, and was, if we may believe report, not only "heavy," but decidedly "slow," seeing that it occupied the whole day from Oswestry to Chester and back. Many jokes were current years ago about the "smartness" of the old Chester coach and its driver, but they are all now passed out of date. There was a "Wonder," changing horses at the Queen's Head, which came from Birmingham. The later coaches from the town were the Royal Oak and the Nettle. The former stopped at the Wynnstay Arms, and ran from Woodside or Eastham Ferry to Chester, Oswestry, Welshpool, and Newtown; and the latter, taking much the same route, changed horses at the Queen's Head. Both were very well-appointed drags, and were successful speculations. William Davies, of Park, drove the Royal Oak at first, and afterwards the same duty was performed by Shaw Evans. Ned Matthews drove the Nettle, and a smart dashing fellow he was, fond of sport, especially of coursing, and owned a good dog or two. One of the noted guards on the road was named Goodwin, who was celebrated as a bugle player, and who always carried a pet dwarf dog in his pocket. Among the curiosities of Oswestry coaches we must mention the Accommodation, which travelled to Shrewsbury, and which was often a source of amusement to the late Hon. Thomas Kenyon, who ran his four-horse coach from his seat, The Prado, to Shrewsbury and back every day. Mr. Kenyon's turn-out was well known to a very wide circle of sporting men, and his fame as a whip was acknowledged by every sporting critic of the day; and notably by Colonel Birch-Reynardson, in his pleasant sketches of "Down the Road." The Accommodation was driven by its proprietor, a man named Jenkins, who kept a public-house in Oswestry known as the Accommodation, and its pace may be judged when we state that it seldom did the distance between the two towns in less than three hours—very often it took longer. It was to all intents and purposes a "slow coach," and yet it carried a good many passengers. The railway, however, gradually pushed all the coaches off the road; and the last guard of the mail, named Moore, managed to retire with something like a competency, and Martindale was the driver. Although the character of the Cross Keys has been entirely changed by the railways which run to Oswestry, the Wynnstay Arms fully maintains its old reputation. Twenty years ago or more it was kept by Mr. David Lloyd (of a family, we should think, of innkeepers, for two of his brothers kept the Wynnstay Arms at Machynlleth, and Llanbrynmair), and a more cheery, comfortable hotel it would be quite impossible to find, or a hostess who was more anxious to make her guests in every pos-

sible way comfortable and "at home" than Mrs. Lloyd. The junction for Oswestry on the Great Western main line is at a place named Gobowen, some two miles from the town, and this is rather an inconvenience; but Oswestry is the headquarters of the Cambrian Railway, where the works and offices of the line are located, and so these more than compensate for the long distance from the trunk line to London. Although the Wynn-stay Arms Hotel is situated in that part of the town farthest from the railway station, it seems to have lost none of its popularity. It is confessedly now, as has been for many years, the chief hotel in the town, and under the management of its present proprietor, Mr. Drew, is not likely to lose any of its ancient reputation as a thoroughly comfortable place to take up a temporary sojourn in.

In reference to some of the statements in the foregoing we may state that the guard, Jack Goodwin belonged to a much later date than Moore; being connected with the Engineer, about the last coach that rattled along the streets of Oswestry. Mr. Martindale, the gentlemanly coachman of the Royal Oak, too, was one of the latest drivers known to Oswestry. The Accommodation originally ran from the Wynnstay Arms; it was in his old age that Jenkins opened a public house, which he called after the Coach. Lastly, we may remark that the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, as is shown in the sketch of his life recently published in the journal of the *Shropshire Archaeological Society*, had no regular times for driving to Shrewsbury; but probably, on an average, did the journey three times a week. We should be glad of any gossip for *Bye-gones* on the old Coaching Days of Shropshire. Ed.

MARCH 19, 1879.

NOTES.

ADMIRAL HAWKE OF ABERYSTWYTH.—

The death, at the end of 1814, is announced, of Edward Humphreys, at Aberystwyth, in his 99th year. It is stated on p. 92 of the *Gents. Mag.* for 1815, that "he was better known by the name of Admiral Hawke, from his having evinced much gallantry in several of that renowned commander's engagements, and being superlatively proud of his laurels." He was the oldest inhabitant of Aberystwyth, and "notwithstanding his age and loss of sight voted at the last election for Cardigan."

G.G.

A RHUABON CONJURER.—Bound up in a volume of pamphlets, Mr. Moses of Trevor Issa has preserved a small 8vo of eight pages, of which the following is a copy of the title-page:—

The Conjuror of Ruabon: being the Life and Mysterious Transactions of John Roberts, known by the name of Mochyn-y-Nant, or the Pig of the Brook. Lately deceased.

By Magic Spells the Pig o' th' Brook
The Village Pilferer oft took;
The Fortune of each Girl he knew,
And if her Swain was false or true;
He'd rule the Planets too, they say,
And tell both Birth and Bridal Day;
Could trace each Scene in People's Lives,
And Bachelors oft help'd to Wives;
Could Dreams expound, or lay a Ghost
In the Red Sea—with Pharaoh's Host:
Each Thought before him stood confess'd,
Which made Folks think he was possess'd.

Printed and Sold by W. Baugh, Ellesmere.

There is no date to the pamphlet, nor does it contain much that can interest. At the back of the title there is a rude wood-cut, presumably a likeness of the Conjuror, but most likely a picture that had done duty for other purposes in Mr. Baugh's office. We are told that

Roberts "resided for a many years in the parish" of Ruabon, where he lately died, at an advanced age." He was looked upon as such an authority, "in what is styled the Black Art," that he was "consulted by the Welch Pisantry, on every occurrence which had the appearance of being connected with Supernatural Agency." It will be needless to give a catalogue of his powers; they were precisely similar to the rest of his class; one anecdote only is worth recording, and even this, I fancy, is not "original":—

Some years ago, a lady in Wales lost a valuable Diamond Ring, and offered great rewards for the recovery thereof. It was however, all in vain, for three of the lady's footmen had purloined the gem. The loss reached our Conjuror's ears, and he resolved to undertake the recovery of the ring. Accordingly, he waited upon the lady, and stipulated for three splendid meals, previous to his restoring the lost gem, having a great desire for once to regale on luxurious fare. The lady gladly accepted the offered terms; a sumptuous dinner was prepared; good heavens! how he ate. An attentive footman (one of the thieves) filled him drink; our Conjuror, gorged, exclaimed, "Tis well, I have the first!" The servant trembled at the ambiguous words, and ran to his companions. "He has found us out!" he said; "he is a Cunning Man." . . . At night, a supper fit for a court of aldermen, was set before the needy Roberts, who filled his paunch till he could eat no more. The second footman watched him all the while. When satisfied, he rose, exclaiming, "The second's in my sack, and cannot escape me!" . . . On the morrow, the Conjuror's appetite was still the same. [The third footman waited]. At last, quite full, he said, "My task is done! the third, thank God, is here!" "Yes," said the trembling culprit, "here's the ring; but hide our shame, and you shall never want good fare again."

No one was more astonished than the Conjuror himself, who made terms with the footman; and seeing some geese outside, forced the ring down the gullet of one of them—restored it to the lady, and got fame and profit by the adventure. J.Z.R.

NEWSPAPERS SEVENTY YEARS AGO.—I

have elsewhere remarked on the scantiness of local news in local papers at the end of last and commencement of the present century. Here is a sample, where the execution of four culprits occupies only the same number of lines in the county paper:—

On Saturday morning last the four unhappy convicts left for execution at the last assize, were brought to the drop, in front of the county gaol, and launched into eternity about half-past eleven.

The trials of the four prisoners, in a previous paper occupied even less space! The paper I quote is the *Salopian Journal*, of April 7, 1802. J.Z.R.

QUERIES.

BAILIFFS OF WEM.—On Oct. 27, 1802, Mr. Thomas Howells and Mr. Thomas Gough were elected Bailiffs of Wem for the year ensuing. What were the bailiffs' duties? Had Wem a Charter before the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835? And can any one furnish *Bye-gones* with the names of bailiffs of other years? G.

Wem, Salop.

THE WELSH LUMP.—Warner, in his "Second Walk through Wales," in August and September, 1798, in the course of his peregrinations arrives at Caerwys, which place he describes rather fully. Alluding to the schools there he states that the masters have the exercises performed in the *English* tongue, and in order to effect this, "some coercion is necessary, as the *little Britons* have a considerable aversion to the Saxon vocabulary; if, therefore, in the colloquial intercourse of the scholars, one

of them be detected in speaking a Welsh word, he is immediately degraded with the *Welsh lump* (a large piece of lead fastened to a string, and suspended round the neck of the offender). This mark of ignominy has had the desired effect." Have any of your readers ever heard of this singular mode of enforcing obedience to the school-master's injunctions at Caerwys? LANDWOR.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT (Feb. 12, 1879).—Since I sent you my list in November last several other copies have come to my knowledge, which I enumerate below as a continuation of the previous list. I hope the possessors of any other copies, or those who may know of them, will help to enlarge the list by sending particulars to *Bye-gones*.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 13 Mr. E. G. Salisbury, Glanaber, | Complete. |
| 14 Jesus Coll: Oxford, | do. |
| 15 Calvinistic Methodist Coll: Bala, | Incomplete. |
| 16 The Bible Society, London, | do. |
| 17 The Rev. J. E. Davies, Llangelynin, | do. |
| 18 Mr. Edw. Rowland, Bryn Offa, Wrexham, | do. |

In answer to the last-named gentleman I may say that the practice of numbering consecutively the folios, and not the pages, was a common one in the 16th century. I have several books of that century, besides Salesbury's Testament, so paginated, and amongst them is Bishop Morgan's Bible. E.B.

OSWESTRY PRINTERS.—I have just come across an advertisement of Jan. 1804, which shows that "Mr. Jameson, bookseller, Oswestry," who, as I stated, Jan. 24, 1877, was married to "Miss E. Thomas, Llwynymain," in Feb. 1796, was a printer as well. The advertisement appears in a Shrewsbury paper, and refers to a sale of timber:—"Printed particulars of the different lots to be had of Mr. Jameson, Printer, Oswestry." We have, thus, four who followed the black art before the expiration of the eighteenth century, viz.:—

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Jackson Salter | 1789: printed book. |
| Thomas Hotchkiss | 1794: died. |
| Edward Williams | 1796: printed race bill. |
| — Jameson | 1796: married. |

It may be that the elder Hotchkiss, who died in 1778, was a printer, but we have no record of it. JARCO.

THE BATTLE OF CHIRK BRIDGE (Feb. '26, 1879).—In the references to the Cinder Riots of 1831, given in *Bye-gones* in 1876, it was stated that when the Yeomanry arrived at Chirk they found no one to meet them, save a poor collier who was having a jug of ale at the public-house on the Shropshire side of the river. This, however, would appear to be incorrect, as will be seen by the following extract from the assize intelligence of the *Salopian Journal* of Mar. 23, 1831:—

Richard Mason, John Williams, and Thomas Richards appearing upon their recognizances, Mr. Bather stated that they were charged with the capital offence of not dispersing within an hour after the proclamation from the Riot Act was read at Chirk Bridge on the 3rd of January last; that in consequence of the energy and exertions of the magistrates of the hundred of Oswestry, the peace of the county had been preserved, and the ends of justice answered, by the defendants being brought before the court, the prosecutors therefore prayed His Lordship to permit no indictment to be preferred. The learned judge complimented the magistracy for their firmness and conduct; explained the law applicable to the case; and after admonishing the prisoners, said he was inclined to listen to the merciful application of the prosecutors, and permit the defendants to be released, upon entering into security for their future good conduct: which was done, and the prisoners were discharged.

The paragraph report of the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, of Mar. 25, 1831, although to the same purport, varies in detail; so I add it:—

Richard Mason and two others appeared upon recognizances. Mr. Bather stated that they were charged with assembling at Chirk in January last, and not dispersing after the proclamation from the Riot Act was read; that the conduct of the magistrates upon the occasion had received the thanks of the court of Quarter Sessions; of the Government; and of the Lord Lieutenant. Mr. Justice Bosanquet said it was not necessary to bring the defendants within the Act that any riots should actually have been committed; that the defendants had been very mercifully dealt by; and the magistrates had acted with great discretion and firmness. His lordship then ordered the defendants to enter into recognizances to keep the peace for two years.

When Mason and his comrades were apprehended the magistrates wrote to the Secretary of State an account of the disturbances, and sought advice as to bail. To which they received the following reply:—

Whitehall, 17 Jan., 1831. Gentlemen, I am directed by Lord MELBOURNE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, by which his lordship is glad to be apprized of the quiet state of your neighbourhood, and that in consequence the Yeomanry have been relieved from duty. With respect to the liberation of the prisoners alluded to, on bail; this is a point on which his lordship cannot give directions, and on which his lordship desires you will exercise your own discretion. I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant, SAM'L. PHILLIPS.

On the receipt of this letter the magistrates met (Jan. 20, 1831) and passed the following resolution:—

Having read the letter from the Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated 17th Jan., respecting the bail proposed for the three prisoners taken into custody at Chirk Bridge for a riot on the 3rd of Jan., we request the Hon. Thomas Kenyon to take such measures as he may think convenient for accomplishing that purpose, and particularly that bail ought to be accepted themselves in £40 each, and two sureties of £20 each, respecting each prisoner, for their appearance at the next Salop assizes, to take their trials respectively. Present:—Hon. Thomas Kenyon, T. N. Parker, J. V. Lovett, William Lloyd, G. N. K. Lloyd, H. P. T. Aubrey.

On the following day Major Gore added his name to the list, stating as his reasons for doing so the following:—

The above signed by me (as approving of bail being taken for the prisoners) subsequent to the entry in the book not having been present when the resolution was agreed to; not being cognizant in any manner of the subject being likely to be canvassed at a meeting not summoned for magisterial business.—W. ORMSBY GORE, Jan. 21.

Although the district was pronounced quiet on the 13th Jan. the special constables seem to have been kept on duty, for by an entry dated Jan. 28, 1831, I find four of them discharged for improper conduct. The names of these were William Wright, Edward Smith, Henry Francis, and William Francis. JARCO.

CURRENT NOTES.

The following letter appears in the *Academy*:—"Llanwrin Rectory, Machynlleth: March 7, 1879. —In one of the volumes of the Hengwrt Collection of Manuscripts at Peniarth is a tract entitled "Ystori Gwlad Ieuan Fendigaid," or the "History of the Country of John the Blessed"—this Ieuan or John being no other than the mythic potentate, Prester John. The story is evidently a translation; and I am anxious to be informed where the probable original may be found. Lhwyd (*Archæologia Britannica*, p. 265) informs us that a MS. of the same story was in his time (1707) preserved in the library of Jesus College, Oxford. The volume at Peniarth, of which this legend forms but a small portion, is a large folio numbered 350. It did not originally

belong to the Hengwrt collection, but was added to it by the late Colonel Vaughan of Rûg. The handwriting cannot be much older than the beginning of the last century, but the language belongs to an earlier period. I have met with several allusions to Prester John in the bards of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; and the stories about him were evidently current then in the Principality.—D. SILVAN EVANS."

Prominent among Sir F. Leighton's contributions to the next exhibition of the Royal Academy (says the *Athenæum*) will probably be a noble whole-length, life-size portrait of Lady Brownlow, standing in ample robes of sumptuous white that fall, a modern costume, in great folds about her figure, while she holds in one hand a bouquet of deep crimson and red. It is a stately figure, of rare beauty, depicted with extraordinary brilliancy and purity of colour, and in a new scheme of arrangement in relation to the fine carnations, the rich bouquet, the vivid green and orange tints of the landscape background, and the pure blue sky, which, laden with vast cumuli, is shown with golden light and huge grey shadows; the resplendent white of these clouds agrees happily with the marble whiteness of the draperies, which fall into

Great laps and folds of sculptor's work.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAMS OF VRON WNION.

We announce with regret the death of Mr. Lewis Williams of Vron Wnion, one of the most highly respected magistrates of Merionethshire. The *Cambrian News* says—The death of this gentleman, which took place at his residence, near Dolgelley, on Monday, the 17th of March, is the loosening of a silver chord that connected us with three generations. Born in July, 1791, during the early throes of the French Revolution, and in the same month that witnessed the treaty of Pillnitz, three months only after the death of Mirabeau had prepared the way for the subsequent savageries of Danton, Robespierre, and Marat, when Louis Seize was yet acknowledged King, and the great Napoleon was an obscure captain of artillery, Mr. Williams only yesterday was the living witness of tremendous events, which have long been relegated to the domain of written history. He was the son of Mr. Ellis Williams of Dolgelley, and was maternally descended from the old Merionethshire family of Owen of Pantphillip. Towards the latter end of the last century, the Old Bank was established at Dolgelley by Mr. Thomas Jones of Ynysfaig, the sheriff of Merioneth in 1806-7, the grandfather of the lady whom Mr. Williams afterwards married. It was carried on for many years by Mr. Thos. Jones and the late Mr. Hugh Jones of Hengwrtucha, until the year 1819, when it was taken up by Mr. T. Jones's son, Mr. Griffith Jones of Bryntirion, and future son-in-law, the subject of this notice. The bank was carried on by them for some years, till Mr. Griffith Jones's death, when Mr. Williams became the sole proprietor, and the Bank was thenceforward known as the Merionethshire Bank. As such it did a considerable business in Merionethshire and the adjoining counties, and under the shrewd and careful personal management of Mr. Williams it took a very high place in public confidence. As one of the banks established prior to the Bank Act of 1844, it enjoyed the right to issue its own notes, and many anecdotes are still current of the preference which the farmers and country people shewed for the "Old Bank" well-thumbed notes, over gold or even notes of the

Bank of England. In 1873 he arranged a transfer to the North and South Wales Bank. And so, after a useful and successful career, extending over the best part of a century, the Old Bank became merged in its erewhile rival, younger but of larger growth.

It was not, however, merely as a banker and a man of business that Mr. Williams was best known. During the whole of his long life he had taken a keen interest and a leading part in all projects, public or private, which had for their object the good of Dolgelley and its neighbourhood. When, in the beginning of the present century, the first Napoleon's threatened invasion of Great Britain led to the formation of volunteer corps throughout the country, a very respectable force, numbering over 800 men, was enrolled in Merionethshire, under the command of the late Mr. Price of Rhiwlas, and was known as the Royal Merioneth Fencibles. Mr. Williams, a mere stripling, accepted a commission as Lieutenant in the Cader Idris Company of this regiment, and continued to be an officer in it till it was disbanded shortly after Waterloo. It is believed he was the last surviving member of the corps. Nearly half a century later, when the threatening clamour of the French colonels led to the re-formation of the Volunteer forces, Mr. Williams again came forward, though he was then nearly 70 years of age, and accepted the command of the Cader Idris Company of the Royal Merionethshire Rifle Volunteers. During the time he held the command he attended regularly to drill and the other duties of his position, and no stranger could have guessed that the active and erect captain, walking briskly by the side of his men, was a veteran of the first Napoleonic volunteer-period and a septuagenarian.

In the year 1864-5, Mr. Williams served the office of sheriff for his county. For upwards of a quarter of a century he was one of the most active and useful magistrates of Merionethshire, and for a great number of years he was chairman of the Dolgelley Board of Guardians. As churchwarden of Dolgelley for a long period, as a member of its Local Board, as a member of all its friendly and charitable societies, as the principal projector, shareholder, and director of its gas, water, and market hall companies, Mr. Williams may be said to have been the father of the place and its unceasing benefactor. About eight or nine years ago his great public services and private worth were recognized by a public subscription, the object of which was the presentation of a valuable portrait of him, painted by Mr. Wells, R.A., which was placed among the likenesses of three other well-known county worthies in the Shire Hall. An address, enclosed in a valuable silver and ebony casket, was at the same time presented to him. In point of age, Mr. Williams was the oldest magistrate and deputy lieutenant in the county.

All that has hitherto been said has had reference to the part which Mr. Williams played before the world, and more might be written of his services to outlying localities in the county. But no record has been kept (except in the hearts of his friends, and of the grateful, sorrowing poor) of the countless benefactions, of the kindly word, the ready help and sympathy, and the truly gentle feeling, which were looked for as of course, and given so ungrudgingly by him who was for so many years past affectionately known as the "Old Banker."

He sleeps quietly in the old Churchyard of Dolgelley, surrounded by a town-ful of grateful hearts; and though his last resting-place may be marked by a conventional tombstone and inscription, the truest epitaph of him will be the well-known one—"Si monumentum quæris, circumspice,

THE LATE MR. JOHN FRAIL.

The following is extracted from a biographical notice of Mr. Frail (who died March 9) in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*:—

At the new Bristol meeting inaugurated by the Prince of Wales, in 1873, Mr. Frail was presented to his Royal Highness who was present, and made a highly characteristic speech, expressing the hope that the Prince might live long and prosper, and that "his dynasty might survive all Radicals, Fenians, and revolutionary thieves for a thousand years." The Prince of Wales, so the London newspapers tell us, "laughed heartily, shook the venerable clerk by the hand, and congratulated him upon the success of the meeting, whereupon those in the immediate vicinity got up a good round cheer." Mr. Frail was not, as has been often supposed, clerk of the course at Bristol, but was a director, and was certainly the principal mover in the affair. It is worthy of note that in 1865 so great had become Mr. Frail's reputation on the turf that he was solicited by Duc De Monty to establish a race meeting near Versailles, the Emperor of the French having expressed a wish to rival, by a French meeting, the famous English Derby, but Mr. Frail for some reason declined the invitation. The late John Mytton was much attached to Mr. Frail, and presented him with the famous racing colours—green and white stripe and black cap—which, naturally enough, have been treasured up as a memento of one of the most extraordinary men Shropshire ever produced. Another item worthy of note in regard to Mr. Frail is that he attended the funeral of his old friend, Mr. George Payne, who was one of his oldest and best racing supporters, and he walked in the funeral cortege arm-in-arm with the Duke of Beaufort.

Half a century ago, Mr. Frail was engaged in a stiff electioneering struggle at Ludlow, in which some member of the Powis family was concerned. His conduct of the Ludlow election won for him the esteem of the Powis family, which, of course, Mr. Frail very highly prized. Through Mr. Holmes, Mr. Frail became known to the Earl of Lonsdale (then Postmaster-General), and his lordship became his warm patron, and continued his confidence in him up to the very last. At Mr. Holmes's, Mr. Frail was introduced to the Countess Blessington, Agnes Strickland (who offered to write his biography), Mons. Guizot (afterwards President of the French Chamber), Lord Byron, Mons. Thiers, Sir Walter Scott, Count Cavour, Prince Tallyrand, Prince Esterhazy, and many other celebrities of that day. When the late Lord Derby became Premier, Mr. Frail had the honour of issuing the invitations to the first State dinner, and his lordship was in the frequent habit of consulting Mr. Frail upon various subjects. At the time he was associated with Mr. Holmes, Mr. Frail was more or less connected with every Conservative organisation of any note in the kingdom, and the "whip to the whipper-in" became as well known in political circles as Mr. Holmes himself. At Mr. Holmes's death, Mr. Frail was entrusted to burn the whole of the celebrated whip's political papers, and also a number of those connected with the trial of Queen Caroline. As these private papers were of the most important nature, in which the character and position of many high personages were jeopardized, it will be seen how great was the confidence reposed in him. In 1837, during Slaney and Ashwood's election at Shrewsbury, Mr. Frail was seized by a number of political opponents at the Turf Hotel, Claremont-hill, between two and three o'clock in the morning; was bound hand and foot with ropes; carried and escorted by a rabble to the English Bridge, the object of his assailants being avowedly to throw him over the parapet in the Severn. His perilous position was, however, seen by an old woman, who gave the alarm, and Mr. Frail was rescued. Four of the ringleaders were brought up at the next Assizes, before Judge Abingdon, and, pleading guilty, and expressing their penitence for the outrage, they were bound over to appear when called upon to receive sentence. During the Chartist riots Mr. Frail was in London, and, with many others, Mr. Frail volunteered his services as special constable. Upon this duty he served in the same company as the late Emperor Napoleon, who was then in London, and was "told off" with others to protect the Treasury. In 1841 Lord Beaconsfield, then Mr. Disraeli, offered himself as a candidate for the representation of Shrewsbury, and the management of the election was mainly in the hands of Mr. Frail. After an exciting battle, Mr. Disraeli was returned in conjunction with Mr. Tomline, and they formed two of the famous "twelve apostles" who then represented Conservative Shropshire. The feelings of friendship which the fatigues and anxieties of this contest fostered between Mr. Dis-

raeli and Mr. Frail, were never forgotten by either. In commemoration of the event, and as a mark of the opinion entertained of his services and character, Mrs. Disraeli, who herself took a very active part in the election, subsequently sent Mr. Frail an elegantly embroidered waistcoat worked by herself, and this Mr. Frail wore at the banquet which he gave a short time ago. Lord Beaconsfield himself always received his old supporter in a most cordial manner, and, four years ago, at Newmarket, when visiting the Rothschilds, they spent nearly the whole afternoon in each other's company, strolling about the heath, and, engrossed in each other's society, both seemed almost oblivious of the sport which thousands had assembled to witness.

MARCH 26, 1879.

NOTES.

A VETERAN SPORTSMAN.—The *Salopian Journal* of Jan. 25, 1804, records the death of Mr. John Green, of Turley-Green, Shropshire, in his ninety-seventh year; and adds, "such was his love for the sports of the field, that he joined in the chase a fortnight only previous to his death."

SCROBBES BYRIG.

OSWESTRY LOYALTY.—The absence of any bell-ringing or other demonstration of Loyalty at Oswestry on the day of the marriage of the Duke of Connaught, Mar. 13, has suggested my sending the annexed for *Bye-gones*:—"When the Prince of Wales was christened, Shropshire, like a loyal county, "rejoiced" exceedingly: dining being an important element in the proceedings. The old *Salopian Journal* of Feb. 2, 1842, in reporting the demonstrations, says, "Oswestry was extremely remiss, we regret to say, on this occasion. Peepoe Cartwright, Esq., got up a supper at Osbourne's (sic) Hotel, at which the Mayor [Mr. Hayward] presided. But for Mr. C. the day would have passed over without any demonstration save the empty compliment of having the shops closed in the afternoon."

D. ILKE.

THIEVES' HOUSES IN WALES.—Early in 1839 a Blue Book was published containing a Report of the Commissioners for enquiring into the best means of establishing a Constabulary Force through England and Wales. Some of the stories of the ways of thieves told in this Report are curious and interesting. The Commissioners ascertained that something like 3,000 "travellers" (i.e. thieves) made provincial tours, either at stated seasons, or when London was too hot for them; and that all over the country there were "lodging houses for travellers" in every town, and almost in every village. These "thieving hotels" were the flash houses of the rural district; the receiving houses for stolen goods. The city of Chester, alone, was stated to have 150 or 200 of them, and there were three at Llanfyllin!

One of these is kept by an old woman, known by the name of Old Peggy. She never lets a tramp go to bed without money or money's worth, and the broken victuals a tramp brings home is sold by her to poor persons who keep dogs,—such as rat-catchers, &c. One man told a druggist of the town, that for two pence Old Peggy would give him scraps enough to keep his dog for a week or more. This druggist stated that Old Peggy had often come to him, saying, "God bless you, doctor, sell me a ha'porth o' tar." When first applied to he asked, "What do you want with tar?" The reply was, "Why, to make a land sailor. I want a ha'porth just to daub a chap's canvass trousers with; and that's how I make a land-sailor, doctor."

Reverting to Cheshire: that county was stated to be (with Cornwall) the very worst in the kingdom for "Wreckers;" and it was stated that on the Cheshire Coast, not far from Liverpool, "They will rob those who have escaped the perils of the sea, and come safe on shore; they will mutilate dead bodies for the sake of rings and personal ornaments."

N.W.S.

QUERIES.

RIDING STANG.—"There is a custom in Shrewsbury (says Mr. Hulbert, *Hist. Co. Salop*, 1835), and I believe in various parts of the county, and I have heard of its existence in some other counties, that when the illicit acquaintance of respectable persons becomes notorious, or their meeting has been detected, a number of the lower orders assemble and make a Mawkin, (sic) that is, stuff some old garments with straw, to resemble the suspected parties, which they carry through the streets, accompanying them with drumming on old drums and old cans, deafening shouts, &c., always making a particular effort opposite the dwellings of the parties they intend to degrade." Mr. Hulbert goes on to say that serious consequences have at times arisen, and would have done so oftener, but that "judicious friends interfere, and with the bribe of a sovereign, a few cans of ale, &c., prevail on the mob to disperse." Did any of your readers ever hear of this custom? And what are the origin and derivation of "Mawkin" and "Riding Stang"? TELL.

FIRST NEWSPAPER ISSUED IN WALES.—At the end of 1803 it was announced that on Jan. 28, 1804, would be published, at sixpence, by T. Jenkins, printer, Swansea, a "New country paper entitled *The Cambrian*, and General Weekly Advertiser for the Principality of Wales." This was announced as "The first and only newspaper published in Wales." Is it yet in existence? H.B.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY IN COACHING DAYS. (Mar. 12, 1879).—My friend the writer in the *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*, mentions the Coaching-houses early in this century. I have before me the original advertisements issued by Mr. William Leigh and Mr. Thomas Hunt, when they took, respectively, the Wynnstay Arms and the Cross Keys: the two chief houses of "entertainment for man and beast" Oswestry contained at the beginning of the present century. These announcements are worth a place in *Bye-gones* if only to show in what the landlords looked to for success, and the change that has passed over us since these advertisements appeared. I give, first, Mr. Leigh's:—

THE BOWLING-GREEN,

(Or, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn's Arms) Oswestry.

WILLIAM LEIGH,

FROM HOCKLEY HOUSE,

BEGS Leave to acquaint the Nobility, Gentry, and others Travelling from Ireland to London, Bath, Bristol, &c., that he has taken and entered on the above Inn, on the Great Road from Holyhead to London, through Shrewsbury (which avoids Conway Ferry) and that he has fitted up the same in a superior Stile of neatness, with new Beds, and every other Requisite for the Accommodation of Families and the Public in general, whose Patronage and Support he humbly solicits; and will endeavour to merit by every Attention in his Power.

N.B. Post Coaches and Chaises, with capital Horses, and experienced sober Drivers. A Stage Coach for the convenience of Passengers, Parcels, &c., travels daily through Oswestry to Holyhead, London, Bath, Bristol, and every part of England.

Funerals furnished.

April 12th, 1802.

Following this there is an advertisement of a Housewarming dinner to be held on Monday, the 16th of the same April: presidents: Sir W. W. Wynn, Bart., and C. W. W. Wynn, Esq.

This was not the first time that the house in question was called "The Bowling Green:" although, as it was advertised to let, during the previous autumn as "The Cross Foxes," one might easily be led to suppose it must

have been. The fact seems to have been that the house was called, indiscriminately, by both names:—thus in 1800 I have seen a dinner announced by the "Oswestry Association for the Punishment of Felons," to be held at "The Bowling Green;" and within a few months after Mr. Leigh entered the house, it was again called "The Cross Foxes" by the Race Committee. When the house was "to let" in 1801, it was described as consisting of a "large assembly room, tea room, and two small parlours," &c., &c. Tea Rooms and Parlours were common enough in Oswestry in those days, although in the present day they have given place to Drawing and Dining Rooms!

The following is Mr. Hunt's programme for the Cross Keys; on which he entered the same year as Mr. Leigh did at the other house:—

CROSS-KEYS INN, OSWESTRY.

THOMAS HUNT,

(Late Butler to WILLIAM OWEN, Esq., of WOODHOUSE.)

RESPECTFULLY informs his Friends and the Public, that he has entered upon the above well situated and old-accustomed INN, and has fitted it up in a Comfortable Manner for the Reception of Travellers and others, who may be assured of every possible Civility and Attention.

The Posting Business is carried on as usual; and the Nobility and Gentry who shall do T. HUNT the honour to patronize his House, may depend upon being accommodated with a Post-Coach, good Chaises, able Horses, and Careful Drivers, and their Favours will be ever gratefully acknowledged.

An ORDINARY every day.

N.B. A Stage Coach for the Conveyance of Passengers, Parcels, &c., travels daily through Oswestry to Holyhead, London, Bath, Bristol, and every part of England.

* * A Hearse and Mourning Coach.

24th May, 1802.

It is worthy of remark how other names, besides those of rooms, have changed in this superlative age. We do not find tradesmen any more independent at election times, or when coming-of-ages are flying about; but they are more fastidious in other things. We have no "shops," now-a-days; only "establishments"; and our "inns" have given place to "hotels." "Shopmen" are "assistants," and instead of "yeomen," "gentlemen" and "esquires"—into which classes our grandfathers were divided, we are all Esquires! The next generation, perhaps, will want to be Knights or Barons! JARCO.

In the old coaching days the guard of the mail was the "Telegraphic despatch," and his information was freely imparted to all comers who chose to surround his coach. As you have shown in *Bye-gones* (Mar. 10, 1875) he was in the habit of intimating, by the sound of his horn, what sort of news he had to communicate; and when his coach arrived at the door of the inn where the horses had to be changed, and he had delivered himself of his narrative, he dived into his "Boot," and from thence extracted the *Post*, *Courier*, *Chronicle*, or whatever London paper the host affected; from the columns of which our forefathers were able to gather the world's news as soon as the editors of the most favoured of our provincial weeklies received their information; indeed, all, editors and public alike, were served out of the same receptacle! And when the provincial editor was cutting up his *Post* to distribute amongst his compositors, the landlord was placing his in the hands of a good reader, who communicated its contents to a smoking-room full of guests at the inn. I remember an Oswestrian (Mr. Samuel Brayne), who had often done duty, early in this century, as a smoking-room reader, during the exciting times of the Peninsular war. In those days provincial newspapers were very antiquated in their information. Here is a

specimen from the *Salopian Journal* of Wednesday, May 2, 1798, "When the Mail Coach left town on Monday evening a rumour prevailed that an account had just been received of a second defeat of the Spanish Fleet, and the capture of three men of war." If anything happened to the Mail then there was no news for anybody, and it was by no means unusual to see an apology for delay. Thus a Shrewsbury paper of Dec. 2, 1801, had to explain that its usual "Postscript" which would have been dated Nov. 30, was not to hand, because the snow was so deep that the mail had not come in when they went to press. Railways and Telegraphs have done much for the provincial press, although they have completely destroyed any prestige those formerly called "county papers" may have possessed; for, thanks to a wise and liberal legislature, the removal of the Taxes on Knowledge has given most towns of importance newspapers of their own. J.2.R.

APRIL 2, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Mar. 12, 1879.)

ELECTION OF TOWN COUNCIL.

Apud oswestre the viijth die Junij Anno R. R.
Elizabeth &c xxliijth in their election howse
of the said Towne

Where by the book of constitution latelie assented into by the Right Honorable the Earle of Arundell xxviith p^{ers}ons were to be appointed to be the Comon counsaile of the said Towne to do that, that in the said booke is for them appointed. It is nowe ordered and agreed uppon, by the bailiffs and the whole burgesses of the said Towne that there shalbe no such comon counsaill made as in that booke ys menc^{ed}ed But that A comon counsaill of xxviith burgesses shalbe made by the most voices of the whole burgesses comorant* in the said Towne To the onlie entent their names may be used in xxviith ways? . . . ffor the callinge of the election of suche burgesses as shalbe yereli elected to be bailiffs and sergeants of the said Towne And the said election to be used in ev^{ry} thinge as is used in the Towne of Salop And the said com^{on} counsaill to be elected ev^{ry} vij yeres.

Th. Evance
Rychard Will^{ms} } bailiffs
John Edwards
Rich lloyd

Hugh Yale Thomas lloyd
Wyllyn Goughe

Rychard Staney
Davyd Edwards
Rich^d Jones
Thomas James
Richard ap John ap M^{re}dith
John Trevor
David lloyd Drap^r
Raine Hammer

Thomas laken
John Morys 1583.

RIGHTS OF BURGESSES.

Also where one other article is sett down in the said booke authorising the bailiffs & com^{on} counsaill to disfranchyse a burgens of the said town upon compt./[complaint] The same article to be hensforth void/ and y^t no burgess be disfranchys^d hensforth in the said town but by due order of lawe & as law permitteth and all the rest of the said booke to be of force.

Also is agreed y^t all burgesses to be hensforth made in the said town, shalbe made by the most voices of the

burgesses of the same for the tyme beinge for the price & after therate at the lest of an order heretofore sett downe and subscribed by the right honorable the lord Lumley : & the then Bailiffs & burgess of the said town.

It'm yt no burgess nor town dweller here shall pay any fee for any acc^{on}[action] to be by hym or them there comenced.

It'm where iiij^d. is allowed to the bailiffs for eu^y acc^{on} comenced or to be comenced in the s^d town. It is agreed y^t the same shall be devid^d among the bailiffs & s^riants for the tyme being ov^r & besides the fees & dewties allready dew to the said s^riants.

It'm y^t all burgesses of thes^d town if they geve cause to be committed to ward in the said town shalbe committed to their free ward & to no other ward except it be in case of treason, murder, or felony.

Th : Evance
Ric. Will^{ms} } Bailiffs.
John Edwards
Rich lloyd
Hugh yale
Davyd Edwards.

BAILIFFS' ACCOUNTS.

The account made upon the d^prture of my L :
Com^{ish}ioners in July or August, 1583.

Re : before y^t tyme for burgess's made } celviji xs.
& sworne

Deducted thereof as folowth by my L : Coun-
saill & the 25 of the coem^{on} counsaile / of the
Counsaill /

li. s. d.
To my L of Arundell lxxvj 13 4
To Hugh Dutton xli.
To T. Evance xxiiij^{li}.
To Ric : Will^{ms} & Hugh Yale xxvii.
To Gruff Kyffyn xls.
for the charge of my L comiss^{rs} xix^{li}. xiijs. ijd.
Remainet cxvli. js. ijd.

Rec^{vd} by Mr. Bailly lloyd and Mr. Bailly Goughe
sithens the account aforesaid as folowth (viz)

li. s. d.
ffurst of Mr. Banastr xxiiij vj viij
Rc of Jeⁿ ap Edd glov^r for his burgeship xxxs.
Rc. of phelip lloyd for his burgeship ls.
There is due upon Jon. moris glov^r for
h's burgeship ls.
Rc. of W. Heilyn by Mr bailly Goughe iij^{li}. vjs. viij^d.

QUERIES.

YSTWYLL, YNYD, AND GARAWYS.—Will
some of your philological readers kindly give the derivation
and meaning of "Ystwyll" (Epiphany), "Ynyd"
(Mawrth Ynyd=Shrove Tuesday), and "Garawys"
(Lent)? IEUAN GLAN YSTWYTH.

OWDL GADARN I RICHARD SION.—Mr.
Rowland Jones, Bridge-street, Dolgelly, has in his pos-
session a fragment of an old MS. book of poetry, which
contains an awdl by Shôn Tudyr, bearing the following
heading :—"Owdl Gadarn i Richard Sion un o wyr y gard
y frenhines Elizabeth." Who can this guardsman be? It
may be that one of the englynion in the awdl referred to
mentions his home; but what place is intended to be de-
scribed by that name, if such it be? This is the englyn re-
ferred to :—

"Cawr o clas Gwiniaw Gwynedd—cryf Ewin
Carw o fuellt orsedd
trwy glod y teru ai gledd
naw o Gowri n i gorwedd."

ROBYN FRYCH.
30

* Comorant, i.e., living to the town.

REPLIES.

SALESBURY'S WELSH TESTAMENT, 1567 (Mar. 19, 1879).—There is a copy of the above in the Library at Merthyr-mawr, Glamorganshire. It was purchased at the sale of Dr. Bliss's Library, in Oxford, 1858; and so keen was the competition for it that the present owner (Mr. J. Cole Nicholl) had to give sixty guineas to secure the book. The volume is in the finest condition, perfect, in the original boards, and margins uncut. F.S.A.
Brecon.

PRINCE D'AREMBERG (Aug. 14, 1878, Jan. 8, 1879).—Prince d'Aremberg, I am informed, was taken prisoner at the battle of Arroyo de Molinos, in Spain, by Lord Hill, who attacked General Girard on the 28 Oct., 1811. Lord Hill commanded on that occasion the 71st and 92nd. The French were 5,000 strong, but although the English soldiers under Lord Hill were tired and footsore from marching, they defeated the French, taking 1,300 prisoners, and all the artillery, colours, baggage, and plunder. Prince d'Aremberg was taken prisoner, and General Girard had a narrow escape. At the time Prince d'Aremberg was at Bridgnorth there were about 500 French prisoners of war. Some of them were from Badajoz, of which General Phillippon was governor, when it was taken by the Duke of Wellington, with the loss of 5,000 men, April 6, 1812. General Phillippon retired to San Cristobel and surrendered next day, and it is said was treated by the Duke with the honour due to a brave opponent. I was at Badajoz in 1875, and its position will not only account for the loss of 5,000 English soldiers, but gives another remarkable instance of the bravery and intrepidity which alone could have given the English so great a victory. General d'Aremberg resided whilst at Bridgnorth in a large house on the St. Mary's steps, immediately below the St. Mary's Church, and the Castle Hill. Until recently it belonged to the old Bridgnorth family of Sing. The garden of the house is formed in terraces along the steep slope, which terminates abruptly above a precipice of the sandstone cliff. The view from this house almost overhanging the cliff across a wooded island called the Bylet, and the Severn winding its course below St. James's is very beautiful and romantic. The Prince, who was on parole, seems to have passed a pleasant time whilst at Bridgnorth. His medical adviser at that time was Mr. James Milman Coley, afterwards Dr. Coley, now dead. Dr. Coley was twice Mayor of Bridgnorth. Prince d'Aremberg's residence at Bridgnorth terminated in 1813, when he returned to the Continent with the other French prisoners of war.

HUBERT SMITH.

[On reference to *Bye-gones*, Jan. 16, 1878, in a query about Count De Crillon, it will be seen that the Prince d'Aremberg was removed from Oswestry to Bridgnorth, because he was suspected of aiding, by his purse, his fellow-captives to escape; among the number Gen. Phillippon.—ED.]

THE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS OF 1804.

(Feb. 5, 1879.)

The first movement in *Merionethshire* to form a little volunteer army seems to have been in the autumn of 1803, and in November of that year Sir Robert Williams Vaughan and others were named as the Major-Commandants. In the "Grand Total of Volunteers in England and Wales" published in Dec. 1803, the county of Merioneth only numbers 464, all infantry; and in the Official list of Officers issued by the War Office in 1804 the following names are given, with dates of appointment:—

CADER IDRIS.

Lt. Col. Comm.: Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart.—3 Feb. 1804.
Major: John Edwards—7 Mar. 1804.
Captains: Edward Owen, Lewis Pugh, Edward Price Anwyl, Humphrey Williams, Thomas Richards, William Williams—7 Mar. 1804.
Lieutenants: William Lloyd, Francis Roberts, Anthony Morgan, Griffith Jones, Ellis Williams, Thomas Pugh—7 Mar. 1804.
Ensigns: Ellis Jones, Thomas Hartley, John Evans, Robert Jones, Henry Oliver, Edward Wallis—7 Mar. 1804.
Chaplain: Richard Hughes—7 Mar. 1804.
Adjutant: John Simpson Kennedy—3 Feb. 1804.
Quarter-Master: Griffith Griffiths—7 Mar. 1804.
Surgeon: Griffith Roberts, jun.—7 Mar. 1804.

EDERNION.

Major Comm.: Edward Lloyd Edwards—24 Dec. 1803.
Captains: Hugh Davies, William Davies, Thomas Davies—24 Dec. 1803.
Lieutenants: Walter Jones, Henry Maesmawr—24 Dec. 1803.

PENLLYN.

Lt. Col. Comm.: Richard Watkin Price—28 Nov. 1803.
Major: Robert Williams—28 Nov. 1803.
Captains: David Anwyl, Griffith Richards—5 Nov. 1803; John Jones—28 Nov. 1803; Gabriel Davies—15 Dec. 1803.
Lieutenants: Thomas Anwyl, David Davies—5 Nov. 1803; Thomas Charles—28 Nov. 1803; John Jones—15 Dec. 1803.
Ensigns: Robert Williams, William Evans—5 Nov. 1803; Edward Evans—28 Nov. 1803; — Chidlow—15 Dec. 1803.
Chaplain: Lewis Anwyl—5 Nov. 1803.
Adjutant: Lieut. Thomas Anwyl—5 Nov. 1803.
Quarter-Master: Benjamin Chidlow—5 Nov. 1803.
Surgeon: — Jones—5 Nov. 1803.

In the interesting notice of the late Mr. Lewis Williams of Vronwnion, published in the *Cambrian News* of Mar. 21, it is stated that when quite a stripling he was appointed Lieutenant in the Cader Idris Company. This would probably be half a dozen years later than its date of formation. Was Mr. Ellis Williams, one of the original lieutenants, his father? We note, in a newspaper list of the period, that the captains of this Company are described as "esquires," and the lieutenants and ensigns as "gents."

The effective force of the Merionethshire Volunteers in 1806 was as follows:—Barmouth 71, Captain Edward Roberts; Edeirnion 234, Major Hugh Davies; Penllyn 286, Lt. Col. R. W. Price; Cader Idris 431, Lt. Col. Sir R. W. Vaughan. There were no yeomanry cavalry or artillery corps in the county. Ed.

THE LATE REV. ROBERT JONES, ROTHERHITHE.

It is our melancholy task this week to record the death of the Rev. Robert Jones, vicar of All Saints, Rotherhithe. The deceased gentleman was seventy years of age. He was a native of Llanfyllin, Montgomeryshire. His parents were well to do persons in the town, and of sterling character. Mr. Jones received his early education at the Oswestry Grammar School, under Dr. Donne. He entered Jesus College, Oxford, we believe, in the year 1834. His first curacy was at Connah's Quay, Flintshire. Subsequently he was curate at Barmouth, and in the

year 1842 he was appointed to the district parish church of All Saints, Rotherhithe. At his decease he had completed his thirty-seventh year as vicar. Few Welshmen, if any, of a literary turn, are ignorant of his name and labours. We are pleased to be able to say that he lived to complete his edition of "The poetical works, life, &c., of Goronwy Owen," his notes to which are of much value. We find in the "Cymmrodor," in the poems of "Iolo Goch," a similar continuation of valuable notes. These, we regret to hear, are unfinished. He edited also an edition of that rare work by Dr. John Davies, of Mallwyd, "Flores Poetarum Britannicorum," "Sef Blodeuog waith y Prydyddion Brytanaidd," and also another most rare and curious work "Salesbury's Welsh-English Dictionary." A word is here due to his connection with "The Cymmrodor." This was brought out at his own personal risk and expense, and we believe at some loss. Mr. Jones, when at Barmouth, published a small hymn book containing, together with a selection of the best hymns of our Welsh poets, some of his own, and others by members of his family. The Powysland Club has lost in him an excellent contributor; and our own *Bye-gones* an occasional correspondent. As a parish priest he was indefatigable in his labours, and most kind to all his parishioners. During the severe visitation of cholera in the years 1853-4, Mr. Jones was at his post, visiting the dying, and administering medicine. Both he and his wife visited from house to house, fearless of danger, doing all they could for the poor. He did not himself escape an attack of the malady, but suffered, and recovered. The Church of All Saints bears evidences of his care for the comfort and adornment of the House of God. The stained glass windows, the organ, and the new pewing were carried out by his persevering exertions. His personal acquaintance with celebrities of the day was extensive, and he undertook to accompany the Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte through Wales, the Prince being desirous of finding out the purest Welsh dialect spoken; and he was present with the Prince at Oxford, when he received the honour of Doctor of Civil Law. As a Welshman, he was patriotic in the extreme. He never wrote, we believe, anonymously, but he sometimes took up his pen in defence of his countrymen against their critics, and the *Times*, notwithstanding its hostile attacks upon the Welsh, always admitted his letters into its columns. Although a true son of the Church of England, his heart was opened to all denominations, irrespective of creed, seeking out the best men amongst them. At his table, at All Saints, he had at one time representatives of all the leading Welsh denominations. He will be greatly missed by all Welshmen in London. His last appearance in public to speak was with the Independents at their anniversary at Fetter Lane, about three weeks before his death. He came to his engagement at the Welsh Bible Society meeting at Aldersgate a few nights afterwards; but was obliged to leave very early, being too ill to speak. He died peacefully and happily. The following is a stanza which he composed when a student in Oxford, descriptive of the Christian life.

Cyfyng yw'r porth,
Ond os cei ben y bryn
Dy nef fydd siriol,
A dy haul fydd wyn.

He has passed from us in all the vigour of his mental powers, and deeply regretted in the metropolis. The Eisteddfod, the University College of Wales, and other institutions have lost in him a valuable friend. His remains were to be interred in the family vault in All Saints Churchyard on Wednesday.

Mr. Jones always retained a lively and pleasant recollection of his old school days at Oswestry, and in 1875,

full half a century after he left to enter on the busy scenes of life, he wrote in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* of the Powysland Club, "So entwined is Oswestry with our early years that we find it impossible to revert to it, even in thought, without hallowing nook and corner with the glow of memories that will not be fettered, but roam fancy free amidst its every locality; be it the venerable church and its square massive tower, or churchyard with its avenue of fine tall limes, or ruined castle now in fragments, or old grammar school, our last though not least interesting of the records of the past. All these have been mellowed by time into hues rich and golden."

All old residents in Oswestry—be they ever so radical in politics—become conservative when they recal the fine old avenue of trees that *once* (alas that we should use the word) existed. It is only new brooms that sweep clean away the glorious foliage, under the shade of which our grandfathers loved to promenade.

Oswestry was not the only place dear to his youth described by Mr. Jones. As far back as 1845, in a publication called the *Illuminated Magazine*, edited by the late Douglas Jerrold, he wrote a sketch, entitled "Old Scenes and New," which was chiefly intended to depict his native town of Llanfyllin, as he left it; and as he afterwards found it when it had been swept and garnished by the new brooms of a succeeding generation.

APRIL 9, 1879.

HOLLY BUSH INNS (Feb. 4, 11, 1874; Jan. 27, 1875).—At these dates several instances of Holly Bush Inns were given. It seems to have been formerly the custom at fairs, and other public gatherings, to sell ale "under the holly bush," in out-of-the-way places and at unlicensed houses, unmolested by the authorities. The term "Good wine needs no Bush" some of our correspondents thought went to show that at one time the bush was common on all public-house signs. There are several inns now in existence that retain the name. Our correspondent LLERTWEL informs us that "The Dolphin" at Llanynech was formerly a Holly Bush Inn.

NOTES.

REMARKABLE OAK AT HENDRE.—The *Gents' Mag*: for Sep. 1811, says, "there is a remarkable oak at Hendre, near Denbigh, in the farmyard of the Rev. W. Chambers; its base is 33 feet in circumference. Only one solitary branch remains in verdure, and the venerable trunk forms a pig-stye capable of accommodating near a score of the swinish multitude." NEMO.

NORTH WALES "COMPOUNDERS."—The following list is taken from the same source as that of Shropshire, given in *Bye-gones*, Feb. 12, 1879:—

CARNARVONSHIRE.

Clark Clement, Cobwell, Her. Gent. of Conway	75	6	8
Griffith Will. Penleech	...	...	1 0 0
Thomas Sir William of Carnarvon barronet...	646	13	4

DENBIGHSHIRE.

Broughton William, Bersham	...	...	90 0 0
Broughton Robert, Streetly	...	...	76 0 0
Chambers, Charles, Henlon, gent.	...	...	170 0 0
Docken John, of Segroit, gent.	...	...	107 0 0
Dutton Rich. Kynnywern, Esq.	...	...	185 6 8
Ellis, Robert, o Knabon, Esq.	...	...	150 0 0
Eaton Ger. and Kenrick his son of Eaton, gent.	457	10	0
Goodman Edw. Nantglyn	...	...	46 10 8
Lloyd Hump. Bersham, gent.	...	...	130 0 0
Manly Francis, Erbstock, gentleman...	...	...	75 0 0
Madox John of Rixum	...	...	96 0 0
Parry Robert, Lleweny, gentleman	...	...	28 0 0
Pickering Francis, Holt, gent.	...	...	222 0 0
Pulford Thomas, Wrexham, gent.	...	...	69 0 0

Royden John of Escoyd, gentleman ...	90	0	0
Salisbury William and Charles his son of			
Buckhymtid, gent. ...	781	0	0
Smith Ralph of Heath ...	90	0	0
Sutton Elis of Gwersilt, gent. ...	57	0	0
Vaughan John of Henlan gent. ...	52	8	0
Wynn Hugh of Llanroost gent. ...	63	13	4
Williams John of Llanfidd, gent. ...	60	0	0

FLINTSHIRE.

Davies Robert, of Guisanny, Esq. ...	645	11	4
Davies Thomas, of the same, gent. ...	51	0	0
Eyton Joh. Junior, Ledswood, gent. ...	42	0	0
Eyton Ioh. Senior, of Ledswood ...	172	15	0
Griffith Peter, Carnvy, Esq. ...	113	13	6
Hanner William, Fenshall, Esq. ...	1370	0	0
Jones John, of Halkin, gent. ...	156	11	4
Lloyd Edw. of Herieth, gent. ...	64	1	0
Mostyn Roger of Mostin, Esq. ...	852	0	0
Phillips Edward, Worthenbury ...	24	0	0
Pennant David, Bigton, gent. ...	42	14	0
Pennant Robert, Whitford ...	298	0	0
Whiteley Thomas of Ashton esq. ...	125	0	0

MERIONETHSHIRE.

Hughes Humphrey, of Werkleys, Esq. ...	333	1	9
Price William of Rhales Mergonethi ...	200	0	0

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Herbert Francis, of Dolgiog ...	318	0	0
Heylyn Peter, Doctor in Divinity ...	112	0	0
Lloid Edward, of Trevnant, Esq., ...	208	0	0
Lloyd Rees, Llangerrig ...	11	0	0
Rock Thomas of Criggon, Esq. ...	372	0	0
Tracy Sir Robert of Toddington Gloucester			
Knight, with 7l. per annum settled. ...	849	8	0
Tannat Rees Aber Tannat Sol. ...	85	0	0
Weaver Arthur Bethons ...	240	0	0

EDMUND PRYS. — *A tradition respecting Edmund Prys, Archdeacon of Merioneth.* — A certain person, named Dr. Coch o Ysptyty Ifan, for some cause or another bore great enmity towards the Venerable Edmund Prys; and once, when the Archdeacon was conducting Divine service in Maentwrog church, this Coch, accompanied by a number of followers, came there to attack him. Edmund Prys was informed that a large number of his enemies was outside the church awaiting a favourable opportunity to seize him. Notwithstanding this alarming piece of news, he maintained his self-possession admirably, and went through service as usual. When service was over he ventured out in spite of the danger, and seized hold of a short ladder, used by the sexton in digging graves, which he whirled round about him in such a threatening manner that none dared to approach him, and so he managed to pass through his foes in safety to a place where his pony was put up, which on receipt of the news of his enemies' arrival he had ordered to be kept in readiness at a convenient distance by the time service was over. Having mounted his pony he galloped off and was soon at a safe distance from his pursuers. The Archdeacon is said to have been a tall, powerfully-built man, and this adventure of his, with the strange weapon he used in self-defence, proves the truth of the old Welsh proverb—"Ni ddifffyr ar ar wās gwyth."

ROBYN FRYCH.

QUERIES.

WHERE WAS EDWARD THE SECOND BORN?—Some Guide Books, and most natives of Carnarvon, would answer this question unhesitatingly "In the Eagle Tower at Carnarvon Castle." Not so antiquaries, who affirm that Edw. II. built it. A new hare has been

started in the last number of the *Arch Camb*: (Jan. 1879), by Mr. Babington, who says that he was told at Carnarvon recently that on an engraving of more than a hundred years old "the Black Tower, near Queen Eleanor's Gate, was pointed out as the birthplace of Edward II." Mr. Babington adds: "It would be interesting to learn, if possible, the authority for the statement on the print, and also when the present tradition sprang up concerning the Eagle Tower." N.W.S.

OLD OSWESTRIANS.—*Edward Wynne Evans.* On Jan. 30, 1878, JARCO called attention to this gentleman, who seems to have been a draper and banker towards the end of last century. In a Shrewsbury paper of June 20, 1804, I find recorded the death of "Mr. E. W. Evans, Post-master, Oswestry." Was this the same person? TELL.

REPLIES.

THE WELSH LUMP. (Mar. 10, 1879).—I some time ago picked up at a bookstall a goodly octavo volume of "Reports of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the State of Education in Wales, appointed by the Committee of Council on Education." The date is 1848. There is much in the book that would be amusing and instructive to your readers in this School-Board age; and much that makes one heartily sympathise with the poor children who were here and there set down as dunces simply because they could not repeat the Apostles' Creed, or give the answers to questions in Dr. Watts' Catechism. "In the Free-Grammar School at St. Asaph, in which Latin and the classics are taught by a superior master," an amusing instance of ignorance is recorded. No boy could explain the meaning of the words, "A sanguinary conflict ensued;" but the Commissioner adds "they could interpret the words equivalent, 'A bloody battle followed.'" I, for one, would like to see boys well grounded in simple words, and would urge that school-masters and inspectors should be men with an affection for Saxon. But all this is not what I was going to write about. In the same "Reports" we have an allusion to the plan for "stamping out Welsh," referred to by LANDWOR. *Llan-drynog*, in the county of Denbigh, is the place in question, and the following is extracted from the report:—"My attention was attracted to a piece of wood, suspended by a string by a boy's neck, and on the wood were the words *Welsh Stick*. This I was told was a stigma for speaking Welsh." The Commissioner goes on to say that "the *Welsh Stick* or *Welsh*, as it is sometimes called, is given to any pupil who is overheard speaking Welsh, and may be transferred by him to any schoolfellow whom he hears committing a similar offence. It is thus passed from one to another until the close of the week, when the pupil in whose possession the *Welsh* is found is punished by flogging." It was said that bearers of "the *Welsh*" would stealthily visit the houses of their schoolfellows, and if they heard them speaking their mother-tongue to their parents, transfer to them the punishment due to themselves! G.G.

I remember some years ago to have seen in a cupboard of a school at *Llanarmon D.C.* a piece of wood, which I was told was called "The *Welsh Stick*," and had formerly been used as a mark of disgrace to the boy who disobeyed orders by speaking in his native tongue! The offender was compelled to stand for some time on one leg in a corner, with the "stick" in his mouth! He was not allowed to part with the piece of wood until he detected a school-fellow guilty of the offence for which he was being punished; and when he did so he was allowed to pass it on. BOWEN.

RIDING STANG (Mar. 26, 1879).—In reply to your correspondent TELL, I have heard of similar proceedings to those quoted from Hulbert for the breach of the seventh commandment, taking place in Wrexham and its neighbourhood, where they dress up a straw effigy, and after carrying it past the domiciles of the offending parties, it is set on fire and burnt. Brewer, in his "Dictionary of Phrase and Fable," thus explains the term:—"To ride the stang, to be under petticoat government. At one time a man who illtreated his wife was made to sit on a 'stang' or pole hoisted on men's shoulders. On this uneasy conveyance the 'stanger' was carried in procession amidst the hootings and jeerings of his neighbours. (Saxon *stang*, a pole)." LANDWOR.

For some interesting information on this subject see "Riding the Stang" on p. 797, v. 2, of Halliwell's Dictionary. In the North men who beat their wives were carried about the parish, and compelled to listen to their evil deeds being proclaimed, and accompanied by a chorus of horns, tin cans, &c. Ray, 1674, speaks of the custom as pertaining to Cambridge, where, at Christmas "stang scholars" who missed chapel, were thus treated to a ride.

ANON.

This custom of denouncing immorality is well known in some parts of Montgomeryshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire. The performance of it is correctly described by Mr. Hulbert, as quoted by TELL. He does not mention that the mawkin, or effigy, is finally committed to the flames of a huge bon-fire, in front of or near to the house of one of the offending parties. Hence it is commonly known by the term "a burning." In the above districts the word mawkin is applied to old garments placed in position to represent the human figure for the purpose of frightening birds in gardens, &c. Bakers use an article also known as the mawkin for cleaning the interior of the oven. It is a kind of mop made of long pieces of old rags fastened to the end of a long rod or pole. With regard to the origin of the word, some derive it from Mohawk, supposing that the effigy resembles a Mohawk in his dress, but this, I think, is far-fetched. It is derived by others from the word "maw," the stomach, and hence, like "mawkish," designates something to be disgusted at or loathed. It may be connected with "mock." The term "stang" is used in many parts of the country to denote a measure of land, and therefore may refer to the "mawking" being carried around a certain district. LLERTWEF.

APRIL 16, 1879.

NOTES.

FOXHUNTING AND HUMANITY.—Under this heading an interesting discussion is going on in the *Animal World*, the organ of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. I had just laid down the March number and opened an old file of the *Salopian Journal*, when my eye caught the following paragraphs, following one another, in the issue for Feb. 29, 1864:—

The annals of Fox-hunting can hardly boast a better run than the North Shropshire or Lee Bridge Subscription hounds had on the 21st instant. They found on Whixall Moss, in this county, ran thro' parts of Flintshire and Cheshire, near to Malpas, where the fox was headed, and returned to Whitchurch; then to Tilstock, Cotton Wood, and was killed near to Wem—a chase of at least 50 miles—in four hours and a half. Out of sixteen horsemen that set off with the hounds, only Captain Owen Roberts and Mr. Clement Hill were in at the death. One horse died upon the field.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has most graciously condescended to become Patron to an Institution, about to be established in the Principality, entitled, THE NORTH WALES HUMANE SOCIETY.

I give the paragraphs exactly as I find them. They were evidently inserted in the ordinary way of business, without any reference the one to the other. The idea that Fox-hunting is cruel is quite a modern one, and *Bye-gones* is not the place in which to discuss the question.

J.2.R.

LOUTHERBOURG AND WELSH SCENERY.—The frontispiece to "Musical and Poetical Relicks of the Welsh Bards" was drawn by Louthembourg, the subject having been taken from the following lines in Gray's Ode to "The Bard":—

"On a rock whose haughty brow
Frowns o'er old Conway's foaming flood,
Robed in the sable garb of woe,
With haggard eyes the poet stood ;

Loose his beard and hoary hair
Streamed like a meteor to the troubled air,
And with a master's hand and prophet's fire
Struck the deep sorrows of his lyre."

Visiting Corwen, Merionethshire, some years ago, I was forcibly struck to find that which appeared to me at the time to be the original of the above spirited frontispiece. The painting, which is still in existence, is on the wall of the parlour in the Harp Inn—is a sort of fresco, if my memory serves me—over the fireplace, and is an exact facsimile of the frontispiece, having the same unfortunate error of placing the harp on the left shoulder, the harpist playing the air with his left hand, whilst the Welsh harp is rested on the right shoulder, the harper playing the air with his right hand and the bass notes with his left. But either by reason of the darkness of the room, or through the effect of smoke and age, I could not decipher "Conway's foaming flood," nor "Helm nor Hawberk's twisted mail," of Edward and his soldiers, seen in the frontispiece, "Down the steep of Snowdon's shaggy side, winding their toilsome march." But the principal figure, the Bard, is in a good state of preservation, and the painting has the following motto:—"Buddugoliaeth ac angau sydd ar fy llaw," being a Welsh rendering of the closing line of the ode, "To triumph, and to die, are mine."

At the time of my visit I was informed that the painting was the work of an artist, who staying at the Harp years ago, completed the painting at his leisure hours, and for his own amusement. Now it is an interesting query for experts to find if this old painting is by Louthembourg, or if it is copied out of the "Musical and Poetical Relics," &c. Some of the following facts may throw light on the enquiry. Edward Jones, 'Bardd y Brenin,' was a native of Henblas, Llanddervel, near Corwen, and whilst in London he may have met with Philip James Louthembourg, and held up his native country as worthy of the pencil of that great landscape painter. There is a painting of Llanrhaiair waterfall, also said to have been the work of a foreign artist, who introduced ships into the foreground. Was this painter Louthembourg? Corwen was celebrated for its Eisteddfodau, held, as we are informed, in one or other of the public houses. Would this painting then be a copy of our frontispiece, intended partly in honour of the Eisteddfod to be held in that room, and partly in honour of their musical neighbour of the Henblas, Llanddervel, who may have been the musical adjudicator on that occasion? This Eisteddfod was a distinct affair from the one held by the Gwyneddigion in 1789, when our worthy neighbour, Gwallter Mechain, carried the honours of the day. It is suggested that the less pretending Eisteddfod was held at the Harp to which place a *bardd* had trudged from a distance in the hope of meeting with a large gathering of kindred spirits, but to his great disappointment found only two

harpists "ranking high through drinking hard," quarrelling over their own status and respective musical powers; and a drunken mad man whose chief delight was to foster the feud between the two disputants. Finding that their strange visitor was a bard the three insisted upon his composing an *englyn* as an address to the Eisteddfod, which he did, effectually describing the scene with its *dramatis persone* in the following ever-to-be-remembered *englyn* :—

"Eisteddfod hynod i'w henwi—yw hon,
A'i hanian yn ddigri';
Dau delynor yn anfonloni,
A dyn o'i hwy, dyna hi."

CYFFIN.

QUERIES.

FIVES COURTS.—The game of ball was a very favourite one with our grandfathers, and "Fives Courts," like Bowling Greens and Skittle Alleys, were not uncommon adjuncts to public houses. Do any exist in Wales or on the Borders at the present day, and do any of our elders remember seeing any in active operation?

TELL.

CYFARTHFA.—One day last autumn I left the train at Glandovey Station, and walked to Machynlleth by way of the Llynfiant Valley. Prominent on its course, high up to the left of the brook, there rises a bold and striking rock, which I was told was known as Cyfarthfa = the [Fox's] Barking Place. Perhaps some reader of this, in the locality or elsewhere, will inform me whether there is any legend or tradition connected with the place?

G.G.

LOCAL RHYMES.—Mr. Salisbury in his notice of the Rev. Peter Edwards of Wem, (*Border Counties' Worthies*, Mar. 1879), says that he once heard him repeat a local ditty as follows :—

"The new church of Wem, and the old steeple,
A drunken parson, and a wicked people."

I have heard a rhyme with the same ring about it elsewhere, but cannot call to mind the locality. Perhaps some reader of *Bye-gones* may be able to supply it. Somewhere about the year 1760, I have been told, a Tourist passing through Mold, summed up his impressions thus :—

"Pretty Mold, proud people,
Handsome church, without a steeple."

The church tower at Mold was, I believe, built in 1773.
N.W.S.

HEIGHT OF SNOWDON.—"The reports of the height of this noted hill have been very differently given. A Mr. Caswell, who was employed by Mr. Adams, in 1682, in a survey of Wales, measured it by instruments made by the directions of Mr. Flamstead; and asserts its height to have been 1,240 yards; but for the honour of our mountain, I am sorry to say, that I must give greater credit to the experiments of late years, which have sunk it to 1,189 yards, and 1 foot; reckoning from the quay at Carnarvon to the highest peak." Can any readers of *Bye-gones* say from whose Tour the foregoing is extracted? The extract appears in a newspaper as early as June 1804, and the writer, in describing the ascent, says, "One of the company had the curiosity to descend a very bad way to a jutting rock, that impended over the monstrous precipice; and he seemed like Mercury ready to take his flight from the summit of Mount Atlas." The party seem to have been on the Capel Curig side. ANON.

REPLIES.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (Mar. 26, 1879.) "The Great Road between London and Holyhead" was a much frequented highway before Telford's "Direct London and Holyhead Road" was constructed, or Macadam had made matters smooth for horses and coaches. In 1804 the Talbot Inn, Shifnal, was advertised "To let," and was recommended to the notice of any who might bid for it, by its being on this "great road," and in the fact that the coach each way, daily, between London and Holyhead, stopped at the house. The parties empowered to treat with intending landlords were Mr. Lawrence, Lion Inn, Shrewsbury; Mrs. Cale, Swan Hotel, Wolverhampton; Mr. Waddell, Hen and Chickens Hotel, or Mr. Dann, Swan Hotel, Birmingham. SCROBBES BYRIG.

Sixty or seventy years ago the roads of Wales were beginning to assume a better shape than they had done at the end of the previous century. Telford was abroad, and he proved a wonderful schoolmaster. In a tour taken previous to 1813, and recorded in the *Gents' Mag.* of that year, the writer says, "If a lady be of the party, a low chair or gig can travel on all the great roads, or a Welch pony (which will bring half the cost on re-sale) will carry her safely the whole way, with her tea-kettle, drawing-book, and a small parcel hung at the saddle; and she will be kept in countenance by meeting many parties travelling in her own style." SHANKS' PONY.

In an old sheet almanack I have previously quoted, there are several bits of information guiding the men of business of 1809 in the way they should go about the conveyance of themselves and their goods. Thus, there was a Royal mail from Chester to Holyhead every morning "about 2 o'clock." A coach three days a week, from the White Lion Inn, to Shrewsbury; and another, "The Union," to the same place, from the Pied-Bull, by way of Whitechurch and Wem. "The Commercial" left the Coach-and-Horses Inn, three days a week, "by way of Wrexham and Chirk, to Holyhead and Oswestry." Communication for heavy goods between Chester and London, was provided by waggons from the Wool-hall, Northgate-street, four days a week, and also by canal. There were also waggons to "all parts of North Wales every Saturday." To Oswestry, Welshpool, &c., Thomas Shaw, from the Blossoms Inn, started a waggon thrice a week; and there was one twice a week to Wrexham and Oswestry, from J. Colemere's warehouse. There was also a "Carrier," William Edwards, from Oswestry, who was to be found at the King's Head, Whitefriars Lane, Chester, every Friday. Parkgate, in those days, was an important port, and we are informed that "four packets sail between Parkgate and Dublin three or four times a week." The almanack I quote from was issued by the publisher of the *Chester Chronicle*, and at that period the "Newsmen" carrying the local papers into the neighbouring towns and villages were in the habit of taking small parcels. Thus, it is stated that the newsmen "from Mr. Monk's [*Courant*] office, in Newgate-street," would set out early on Tuesday mornings, and "from Mr. Fletcher's, [*Chronicle*] office, in Foregate-street," early on Friday mornings. N.W.S.

Miss Eliza Meteyard, better known by her nom de plume of "Silverpen," died at her residence, in Lambeth, on Friday, April 4. She was the only daughter of Mr. Meteyard, a surgeon, of Shrewsbury, and was born early in the present century. Miss Meteyard was in receipt of a Civil Service pension of £100 a year in recognition of her literary labours.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(Feb. 26, 1879).

FALK, ROBERT, who had descended from John Falk, several times Mayor of Hereford, was born in or near that city in the year 1534. He is mentioned in some old manuscripts as a poet, but might more properly be called a song-writer, for most of his written effusions mentioned therein are of that character. One of them, which has been amended by a more modern writer, has the following verse :—

In Polly's eye I saw a tear,

"What means that drop sweet child?" I cried;

"Look in," she said, "the secret's there,"

And in that drop myself I spied.

He gained nothing from the knowledge thus acquired, for he is said to have died unmarried in 1592. He is spoken of as "an educated man, having a ready wit, considerable knowledge of the world, and a fierce reformer in religion."

FAULKNER, WILLIAM, born in the year 1806 at Dean, near Congleton, Cheshire, having become a Methodist minister, was sent out to Newfoundland in 1830, where for twenty years he laboured as a missionary with indomitable energy, and with the most marked success. In 1850 he returned to England, and was at once placed upon the rota for home circuit work. His earnest and intelligent mode of preaching assured for him cordial acceptance and respect wherever he was stationed, and in 1868 he met with him as "one of the legal hundred" and chairman of the Isle of Man district. After three years service in that Island he was appointed to Accrington in Lancashire, where in 1872 he died.

FELVUS, JOHN, born in 1797 at New Marton, Shropshire. He has been mentioned with respect as a Wesleyan minister who laboured for many years as a missionary in the West Indies; Nevis, Tortola, Dominica, and Antigua, being the scenes of his travels, and the fields in which he met with great success. It is thought that he left England about the close of 1819; in that case he must have witnessed in our West Indian possessions the frightful effects of sin; entire peoples being given up to depravity. Before he returned to his own country, a great change had taken place in the character of the inhabitants, for the gospel had brought before them a new life, and in its train there followed a higher state of morals, a purer civilization, and the untold blessings of freedom. Mr. Felvus afterwards laboured in various circuits at home, and died in 1833.

FELVUS, RICHARD, born at Oswestry, Salop, in the year 1799. He possessed considerable natural ability, and having joined the Methodists, he was appointed one of their local preachers. In 1823 he entered upon the regular work of the ministry, and for the long period of forty-three years he sustained his office, not only without reproach, but with infinite credit, and undoubted advantage to the public. He will always be remembered by the Methodists as one of their very best "field preachers." This work he undertook of his own free will, in addition to his ordinary ministerial duties, believing that he could in that way reach a people who would not attend any place of public worship. This excellent man died at Harrogate in 1871.

FINMORE, WILLIAM, is said to have been born in Cheshire or Salop, not far from Whitchurch, and having passed through Westminster School, he in 1642 was elected thence to Oxford, where he afterwards acted as tutor, Philip Henry being one of his pupils. He was vicar of Runcorn, in Cheshire, in 1664 prebendary at Chester, and

in 1666 archdeacon of the same. He died in 1686. Mr. Finmore was one of the very best classical scholars of his day, and better acquainted, perhaps, with the standard works of Greek and Latin authors than any other member of the Oxford University. He was also a capital "tutor," and could "cram" his pupils in a remarkable manner. Mr. Henry entertained the highest respect for him both as a man and a scholar.

FINNEY, JOHN, born at Finney Green, Cheshire, and who died in 1653, is mentioned as among the earliest of the Cestrians who joined Brereton's fortunes on the side of the Parliament, and against the King, during the Civil Wars. He was an officer in that gallant commander's regiment, and very earnest in the cause. We do not know very much about the services he rendered to the nation, but according to some Cheshire MSS. we may conclude that his honesty of purpose was undoubted, and that however much he rebelled against the King, he was no traitor to the crown.

FINNEY, SAMUEL, second son of the last named, and a Cheshire man withal, having been brought up to merchandise, proceeded to the Island of Barbadoes, where he settled as a planter. He married an English lady in that island, and having prospered there, returned with his family to England in 1681, and bought an estate at Fulshaw in his native county. He was a Whig in politics, and it is not wonderful, therefore, to find him busily engaged in 1688, with Lord Delamere and other of the Cheshire gentry, in fanning into being the grand revolution which placed William and Mary upon the English throne. For reasons not very clearly stated he afterwards emigrated to Pennsylvania, where he died in 1711.

FINNEY, SAMUEL, son of a gentleman of the same name, was born at Fulshaw, in Cheshire, in the early part of the last century. He was educated for the legal profession, and studied law for some time, both at Manchester and in London, but he abandoned this branch of learning, and became an enamel painter. In 1763 he was appointed enamel and miniature painter to Queen Charlotte, and his name was duly entered upon the establishment as such. It is said that this was the first appointment of the kind ever made in our Court by royal warrant. How far Mr. Finney's ability justified it, is not a matter for enquiry, it is sufficient to know that in his person a compliment was paid to British artists, and that since his time a growing disposition has been evinced in the Court to encourage native talent, and to do fitting honour to a school of artists who have done so much to refine and elevate the character of the nation.

FITTON, JOHN, a native of Wilmslow, in Cheshire, is mentioned in several records in the latter part of Edward the Third's reign, as a person who was knighted, probably for services rendered on several fields of battle; for in 1369 he joined the king's forces in Gascony; the following year he was abroad in the retinue of Sir Robert de Knolles, and a year later we meet with him at Calais, serving under Nicholas de Tamworth, captain of the town. There is not very much known of him after that time, and it is generally believed that he died in England, leaving a son Hamo, who succeeded to his estates.

FITZ-AIR, MARGERY, daughter and sole heiress of her father, Thomas, was born at Wistanston, near Bridgnorth, Salop, on the 4th of April, 1314. Her ancestors, according to seemingly authentic accounts, settled in the neighbourhood about 1086, and two considerable properties named Aston and Wytheford descended to her as the sole lineal representative of her ancient race. She afterwards married a Charlton, and carried her estates to that family,

and Mr. Wasey, in his account of Quatfield, says :—"The two estates were held together from that very remote period (1086) for seven hundred and sixty-six years, till the sale of the entire property by Mr. St. John Charlton, of Arpley Castle, seven years ago" (1852). It is not often that such a fact can be found recorded in history, and the lady heiress, who thus became the progenitor of a Salopian race of gentlemen who held her lands for more than five hundred years, is not undeserving of honourable mention in the local annals of her native county.

FITZ-ALLAN, WILLIAM, son of another William Fitz-Allan who had built the castle of Clun, and founded the Abbey of Haughmond, is reasonably supposed to have been born in Shropshire. He succeeded upon the death of his father to immense possessions, for we read how, in the twelfth year of Henry the Second, he "certified his knights fees to be in number thirty-five and a half, whereof nineteen were de veteri feofwento, and sixteen and a half de novo." He was sheriff of his county for eleven years at a time when the holder of that office was de facto "Governor of a shire," and long anterior to the introduction of the system now in vogue whereby certain persons are returned to the authorities as suitable men for the post. He was also that Lord of Clun who is said to have entertained Baldwin on his Welsh visitation, so that altogether he may be looked upon as the leading man of his time in Shropshire, and a power in the land. He died in 1215.

FITZ-ALWIN, HENRY, who served the office of mayor of London between 1189 and 1212, is claimed by Mr. Hulbert as a native of Shropshire. Mr. Orridge, who gave much attention to the municipal history of the city, can only state two facts in relation to him, viz., that he was a member of the Drapers' Company, and ancestor to the Earl of Abingdon. We have spent many hours in trying to find a better account of him, for if it be true that London was governed by her own magistrates, and amenable only to her own Courts long before the Conqueror set his foot in England, then must the character of her chief magistrate be a subject of intense interest to every student of history. This gentleman has the high honour of being recorded as her first mayor, and his long term of office would plainly indicate that he was esteemed worthy of the honour conferred upon him. We are bound to claim him as a Salopian under the circumstances mentioned, in the absence of evidence to the contrary; but we are equally bound to admit that we know of no evidence to support Mr. Hulbert's statement, and that Mr. Fitz-Alwin's claim to a place in these records is slight indeed.

FITZ-GWARINE, FULK, grandson (or as some say great grandson) of Gwarine de Metz, who died in the reign of Henry the First, at Alberbury, is claimed by most writers as a native of Shropshire. His history is romantic, but far too long to be inserted in these records. He managed to repossess himself of the Castle of Whittington, which he afterwards fortified, and then held it fast against all comers. It is said that a rude figure on horseback, representing Fitz-Gwarine, was placed on a tower of the Castle, under which were the following lines :—

This was Sir Foulk Fitz Warine, late a great and valiant knight,
Who kept the Britons still in awe, and oft times put to flight;
He of this Castle owner was, and kept it by command,
Of Henry late surnam'd the Third, then King of all this land.
His grandfather, a Lorriner, by fame was much befriended,
Who Peverley's daughter took to wife, from whom this Fulk descended;

His ancient acts of chivalry, in annals are recorded,
Our King of England afterwards him baron made and lorded.

He lost his sight in old age, and dying was buried in the porch of Whittington Church, where his remains were found in 1796, when opening a grave in that spot. Dovaston's "Fitz-Gwarine" has immortalized his name.

FITZ-PAYNE, ROBERT, son of John Fitz-Pain, a chief counsellor of King Henry I., is supposed to have been born in Herefordshire, where his father possessed the whole territory of Ewyas. He was a man of mark, and of great consequence in his county, and his descendants in the male line were summoned to Parliament until the reign of Edward III., when the title became in abeyance in the female line. Eventually the Earls of Northumberland claimed the honours of this great house, and held them until 1537, when by attainder they were lost. In 1557, they were restored to Thomas Percy, who was afterwards created Earl of Northumberland, and they continued in the family till 1670, when they became extinct on the death of Earl Joceline, without male issue.

FITZ-WALTER, MILO, best known as Milo of Gloucester, was a Justice Itinerant in the reign of Henry the First. It is more than probable that he was born at Llanthony, in Monmouthshire, his mother being Emma, sister of Hamelin de Balun, his father Walter, who built the Castle of Gloucester. He supported the pretensions of Stephen to the throne, and that king confirmed to him and his heirs all lands held by him on the death of Henry. This had no sooner been done than our worthy joined the Empress Matilda, and to her fortunes he ever afterwards remained true. In 1141 he was created Earl of Hereford, and it was he who translated the Canons of the Abbey of Llanthony, in Monmouthshire, to a place called Hide, near Gloucester, where he established them in a new Abbey called Llanthony *Secunda*. He died in 1146, having been accidentally slain by an arrow in a hunting match.

FORD, CORNELIUS, son of William Ffoord, a player at Gullet, born at Shrewsbury, in 1677, is probably the same person who took his A.B. degree at Cambridge in 1713, and M.A. 1720. Mr. Blakeway thinks not, but others think yes. True he was aged when he took his first degree, but his poverty may have stood in his way, and if the Rev. Cornelius Ford, who died in 1731, "much esteemed for his polite agreeable conversation," be the one that Sir J. Hawkins speaks of, then it is hard indeed to think of him "as eminent for his wit and profligacy, and the subject of one of Lord Chesterfield's bon mots." It is far more probable that the two men were entirely distinct, one being "descended of an ancient race" in Warwickshire, and *polite* in his carriage, the other being the "player's" son, and "eminent for his wit and profligacy." Holding, then, to the latter, we assume that it was *he* who in 1728 solicited Lord Chesterfield to allow him to accompany him to the Hague as chaplain, and that this called forth the witty remark, "No, Ford, that will never do; you have one vice too few." "What is that, my lord?" "Hypocrisy to conceal your others."

FORRESTER, GEORGE, "the good old squire of Willey, in Shropshire," is a name ever remembered with affection by the sportsmen of that fine county. He was not a man of mark, as a scholar or statesman, but he was as fine a type of the "Old English Gentleman" as is to be met with in books. Kind to the poor and needy, generous and hospitable to his friends, devoted to field sports, and proud of his horses and dogs, as well he might be. *Diddin* in his song of "Bachelor's Hall" has drawn a picture of the "Squire" in his character of host :—

"To Bachelor's Hall we good fellows invite
To partake of the cheer which makes up our delight

We've spirits like fire, and of health such a start
That our pulse strikes the seconds as true as a dart.
Did you see us you'd swear that we mount with a grace,
That Diana had dubb'd some new gods of the chase,
Hark away ! Hark away ! all nature looks gay,
And Aurora with smiles ushers in the bright day."

"In all labour there is profit," and we may take some pride to ourselves as a nation, that men like Squire Forrester have not laboured in vain, even in the cultivation of those sports and pastimes which have helped to train up for us a race of brave and gallant men, who have carried the honour and glory of their country far and wide, and who have rarely missed to impress upon the minds of an enemy that a true English gentleman is a foeman worthy of very marked respect.

FOSBROKE, JOHN, born in 1591, at Diddlesbury, Salop, was son of Richard Fosbroke, an armourer at the Tower of London, but who, in 1584, married an heiress of Diddlesbury, and ever after lived there. This son was a brave man, who felt a pride in being a wealthy yeoman rather than become a baronet, when he declined the offer of James the First to make him such when that honour was used in raising ways and means. The Herefordians, above all other people, retain the character of the old English yeomanry, bold, independent, frank, respectable, and well to do men, and John Fosbroke answered fully to this description of Englishmen, who have been the mainstay of our rights and liberties.

FOSBROKE, WILLIAM, grandson of the last named, and born in Herefordshire about 1650, was educated at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, where he took his degree of M.A. in 1677. He was vicar of Diddlesbury, and rector of Aston, South Shropshire, where he died in 1726. His kinsman (the author of "A Companion to the Wye Tour") describes him as "a noted Tory in politics (who) lived with half his mind in the other world; read old divinity; wore a large wig and full black; fasted every Innocent day; had daily prayers, and endured a scolding wife with patience." He was of the old school, in other respects, for he was a sound classic, and unbounded in his hospitality, and in his affection for the Church.

FOWNES, GEORGE, a native of Shropshire, was educated at Shrewsbury School, and at Cambridge. He was a man of great learning, and well versed in law, physic, and in other branches of science, but his life was spent in the ministry, and he preached in several parts of the country until he finally settled at Bristol. He appears to have suffered much persecution, to have been imprisoned more than once, and, although acquitted of the offences brought against him, the ruling powers under one pretence or other managed to keep him in custody to the end of his life, for he died in prison, 1685.

FOXÉ, CHARLES, a native of Shropshire, in the year 1590 provided by his will that some almshouses and a chapel, then in course of erection at Ludlow, which he had commenced to build for charitable and godly uses, should be completed at the cost of his estate, and that some provision should also in like manner be made for the support of persons occupying the said houses, and to a chaplain who read prayers to the same. The pious intentions of the testator were carried out for near two centuries, but in 1789 the chapel and its appurtenances fell into the hands of the Corporation of Ludlow, who turned the whole to secular uses. This property led to a costly suit in Chancery, and ended in the discharge of the Corporation from their improper holding, and

an order for the restoration of the whole to a new trust appointed by the Court was made. "Foxe's Charity" thus re-settled brought his worthy name and deeds to remembrance again, and the property has been usefully employed in support of a due observance of these charitable trusts.

FRAUNCE, ABRAHAM, a native of Shropshire, was probably educated at Shrewsbury School. He was sent to the University by Sir Philip Sidney, and was matriculated as a pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, 20th May, 1575. He proceeded B.A. 1579—80, and took a part in Dr. Legge's Play of Ricardus Tertius, which was acted at St. John's College that year. He was elected a fellow in 1580, and commenced M.A. 1583, about which time he removed to Gray's Inn. In due course he was called to the Bar, practising in the Court of the Marches of Wales. In 1590 he was recommended by Henry, Earl of Pembroke, as in every respect qualified for the office of Queen's Solicitor in that court. Of his subsequent life we have no particulars. His works, consisting chiefly of poems, are as follows:—1, The Lamentations of Amintas for the death of Phillis, 4to., 1587—1588. 2, The Lawiers Logike by the Practise of the Common Lawe, 4to., 1588. 3, The Arcadian Rhetorike, 8vo., 1588. 4, Insignium Armorum, Emblematum, Hieroglyphicorum, et Symbolorum, &c., 4to., 1588. 5, The Countesse of Pembroke's Emanuel, 4to., 1591. 6, The Countesse of Pembroke's Yvychurch, 4to., 1591. 7, The third part of the Countesse of Pembroke's Yvychurch, 4to., 1592. 8, The Shepheardes Logike, MS. fol.

FRISWELL, JAMES HAIN, essayist and author, was born at Newport, Shropshire, and educated at a school in Bedfordshire. His first known work appeared in the year 1852, in a publication conducted by the late Albert Smith, and he has since contributed largely to newspapers and reviews. He wrote and edited numerous works, but a series of moral essays, entitled the "Gentle Life," stamped his reputation as an author, and brought him before the public in a favourable light. Suffering for years from a painful illness, he laboured on in the path of duty, and when in March 1878, death summoned him home, he was still at work, and thus died in harness. His memory will be cherished by thousands, who found instruction and pleasure in his writings, and he will be mentioned in days to come as among the worthies of his native county. "Out and About," "Footsteps to Fame," and "Familiar Words," may be mentioned as among the productions of his pen.

FROST, JOHN, who so unhappily identified himself with the Chartist's riots, in Monmouthshire, was born at Newport, in that county, 1784. An attorney by profession, and a leading man in the county, his influence told fearfully upon the poor misguided masses, who fancied that their political wrongs could be redressed by the force of arms. How his followers were dispersed by the military, and he was tried for treason, found guilty, condemned to die, was respited, transported to Botany Bay, and afterwards pardoned, are matters of history. It is wonderful how in thirty years Parliament should have passed into law many of the political objects he contended for in 1839. The abolition of the property qualification for members of Parliament, household suffrage, vote by ballot, are now so many parts of our Constitution, clearly showing how by peaceful means organic changes can be secured in this country, and that a resort to violence is not only unnecessary, but altogether foreign to the genius of our laws. The life of Mr. Frost is a problem full of

meaning, which, if rightly used, cannot fail to be instructive to all who would have law made subservient to passion, and also to those who would restrain men's actions within the limits of law.

FULLESHURST, SIR ROBERT, a distinguished Cheshire man "by birth, family, and inheritance," being the second son of Richard de Fulleshurst of Edbaston, in that county, was one of the four esquires who attended upon the great Audley at the glorious battle of Poitiers. *Punch* thus sang his praises in 1855:—

There rides the LORD JAMES AUDLEY, the bravest man that day,
And near him the four trusty squires, who saw him through
the fray,
Dutton and Delves and FOWLEHURST, and Hawkstone of
Minshall,
Names glib in many a mouth that morn—thank God, remem-
bered still.

Mr. Hinchliffe, in his interesting history of Barthomley, tells us pretty well all that is known of him and how, "from an esquire he attained to the dignity of a knight," and dying the thirteenth Richard the Second, he was buried "in the north east corner of the chancel of Barthomley Church under an alabaster tomb," on which lay the recumbent figure of the knight, clad in armour, with mail, gorgets, and conical helmet, in front of which are the words "Ich Nazarene," and collar of S.S., his feet resting on a lion. He had married Elizabeth Pears of Barthomley and Crewe, and for many generations the descendants of this happy match ruled supreme in that part of Cheshire. None of them, however, could excel their great ancestor in prowess, none add to the glory of the name he bore, for so long as history endures, the heroes of Poitiers should bear the palm of excellence both for what they did there, and for their adherence to the noble Prince under whom they served.

FULLESHURST, ROBERT, fifth in descent from the last named, and like himself a Cheshire hero, in the year 1513, "left his lady and youthful family of nine children, to fight for king Henry the Eighth in the wars against king James the Fourth of Scotland," and was slain on *Flodden Field*, the "woeful fight of Flodden" a contest unsullied by disgrace, though terminating in disaster to the Scots. Mr. Hinchliffe believes that the death of our worthy "greatly contributed to the subsequent fall of the ancient house of Fulleshurst." The lands which had come to the first Robert by his marriage, soon passed out of the hands of the descendants of the second Robert, to the Hultons, and eventually to the Crewes, and now there remains but the historic glory of the name, the remembrance of the valiant deeds which these brave men had done for England, the honour to Cheshire in having given birth to a race who never sullied the fair fame of the shire by actions unbecoming the "chief of men."

FULLESHURST, ROBERT, who upon the 9th of October, 1475, was presented to the rectory of Barthomley, by his namesake and relative, the patron of that living, is supposed to have been buried within the chancel of the Church, under a slab, upon which is displayed the figure of an ecclesiastic, in his official robes, with clasped hands and head resting upon a pillar, supported by an angel. He was the last Roman Catholic rector of the parish, and probably lived to see how Henry, "defender of the faith," could deal with God's heritage, when his own vile passions were interfered with by the Church. Whether he succumbed to the fatal influences of man-made law, and abandoned his faith to save his living, or gave up the latter

to demonstrate the power of the former, are unsolved questions, but Mr. Hinchliffe avails himself of his name to propound a theory which, if true, is a remarkable proof of the able manner in which the affairs of the Romish Church have been managed. He assumes that from the day Robert Fulleshurst ceased to serve the altar at Barthomley, a succession of rectors have been regularly recorded at Rome, as the true holders of the living. This may be true or not, but of one thing there can be no doubt that from 1303 to the present day, the name of Christ has been taught at the altar of the Church, and whether this were done by Romanists or by Protestants, we may cherish the belief that it was done reverently and lovingly, and always in the fear of God. Not one of the name of Fulleshurst has ministered in that Church since the days of the worthy at the head of this article, for, as mentioned above, this old Cheshire family soon afterwards failed in the male line.

FURBER, THOMAS, was born at Market Drayton, Shropshire, in the year 1784. He entered the navy when quite a lad, and in 1801 he is mentioned as a lieutenant. That position he held for the long period of twenty-three years, but in 1824 he was promoted to the command of the sloop *Helicon*, but fortune smiled upon him just for a moment only, for in less than a year he returned in her to England, and was paid off, seeing no more active service after that date. He had taken part in several engagements during his service in the navy, and had always exhibited great bravery; the fates, however, were against him, and, like many more of his companions, he had to rust on shore. He died in 1875, aged ninety-one, and was rated as a Vice-Admiral on the retired list at the time of his death.

FURNEY, JANE, who died in 1730, was born at Ross, in Herefordshire, and is described as "A Christian of the old school, her life was a ladder on which delighted angels might descend, and which she daily lengthened till it reached the skies, the altar, the pulpit, the organ, the blue coat school, all whisper to memory her revered name, the workhouse and garden, her sole gift, remain her unknown monument." Mr. Fosbroke has enshrined her memory thus in one of his works, and she must have been, if this record be true, a most excellent woman, having a "pious and great soul."

FUYST, JOHN, son of one William Faust, was born at Hereford, and in time became a person of some importance there. He was a merchant, as his father had been before him, a princely gentleman, and "five times mayor of his native citye." There is a tradition that he had favoured the "new religion," but surely this must have been very questionable, seeing that he was a man in authority, and bound thereby to have more faith in Mother Church than in the Lollard attachment to Christ's authority therein. He died in 1455, and at that time he certainly confided far more in the prayers of the living for the peace of his soul, than in the new fangled notion that the mediatorial death of Christ could secure this same "peace" through any living faith in its efficacy. There are words remaining upon the brass leaf surrounding his tombstone at Hereford that show this abundantly, and unless some of his fourteen children belied the convictions of honest John, he passed from "erthe to hevyn" in full assurance that the "Aves" of those he had left behind him could do for his soul, that which no impious Lollard would dare to try. Peace to his manes, for he was a right worthy and honourable man.

APRIL 23, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Apr. 2, 1879).

THE CHARTERS ABSTRACTED FROM THE BOX.

xv die October Anno R.R.

Elizabeth &c xxvij^o 1585

M'd. that Rondell lloid and Gruffith kyffin gent Bailiffs of the towne of Oswestrie and the Coburgesses whose names are hereunder written being assembled together upon warning to their ellection and to take view of suche Ch'res and other mynyments as should have bynn delyv'ed by Roger Staney and Richard Cowp'r officers of the same towne who made default of the delyv'ry thereof, wherefore we the said Bailiffs by the consent of the whole Burgesses opened on' chest where the said Ch'res hath bynn used to be kept tyme out of mynd & there found no Ch'res but ij^o Boxes with four l'res in them, the towne seale and ij^o pap'r books / Wittness of the receipt thereof,

Randolph Lloyd Gruff G'gh bailiffs
Thomas Lloyd

W. Stanney

John Muckleston
John Morys
Thomas : Evance the younger
Thomas gryffith
Richard Marcroft
Roger Philipps Sergiant
Jeny'n ap David Lloyd
Richard Kyffin Lloyd
Thomas Staney
Richard Hughes
Edward. Wms.
Thomas ap Edd Muckleston
William evance
John William
Reynold Evanns
Hugh ap Wm glov'r
Edward Gorg.
Rice ap M'redd
w'th many others—

ADJUSTING THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

xxij die October a^oR. Eliz : R. &c. xxviii^o

Ag'd upon the measuringe of the Aunciente and accustomed Bushell of the towne w'th a wine quart of wheate we have founde the said Bushell to contayne xiiij wyne galons and a halfe/ And therupon we the p'rsous undernamed (nowe the Bayliffs of the said towne) do det'rmyne that all the Bushells wherw'th any corne, graine, pulse, sault, and oatemeale shalbe bought and sold in the said towne, shall containe the said nombre of xiiij wyne galons and a half, and no more or lesse.

Th : Evance.
Edd Edwards.

QUERIES.

CARAVANSERAY AT DOLGELLEY. — Mr.

Paul Hawkins Fisher, who made a "Three Weeks Tour in Wales" in 1817, the subject of a book printed during the following year by F. Vigurs, Stroud, says, speaking of Dolgelley, "The houses are generally old and mean; but a small inn, which appeared to be recently fitted up, bore the unusual title, in very conspicuous letters, of a 'Caravan-seray,' which name had been recommended by a humourist to its unlettered master." The writer is also surprised to find a bookseller and printer's shop in so small a town,

and still more astonished to find that its owner "was engaged in publishing a quarto edition of the Jewish historian, Josephus, in Welch, which was intended to be completed in twenty numbers, with plates." Mr. Fisher made his home at the Golden Lion, where for the first time in course of his tour he found a harper. But he had then only visited Rhalladr, Devil's Bridge, Aberystwyth, and Machynlleth. Who was the printer, and which the Caravanseray at Dolgelley? D.

OSWESTRY CHESS CLUB.—Does anybody play chess in Oswestry now-a-days? Thirty years ago, I have been told, we had in the town some excellent players. I copied the other day from the *Oswestry Advertiser* of July 1849 the following advertisement :—

OSWESTRY CHESS CLUB.

IT is proposed to establish a Chess Club, to meet in some suitable room in Oswestry, and to be conducted on a plan similar to that of the London and Edinburgh Chess Clubs.

All Ladies and Gentlemen willing to coöperate in this undertaking, by enrolling themselves as members, offering suggestions, or in any way affording assistance, are requested to communicate (post paid) with CASTLE KING, Esq., Post Office, Oswestry.

Was the club established, where did it meet, and who opened the letters addressed "Castle King, Esq."?

YOUNG OSWESTRY.

REPLIES.

THE VOLUNTEER ARMY OF 1804 (Mar. 2, 1879).—In your issue of Feb. 5, you gave the names of the officers, and some other particulars respecting the Oswestry Volunteers of this period. In the "Cheshire Sheaf" column of the *Courant* on Apr. 2, it is stated that the Oswestry Yeomanry Cavalry marched for ten days' duty at Chester, under the command of Major Warrington, on July 21, 1804. It was usual just then for corps to assemble at neighbouring towns for permanent duty. During the previous month the Chester Volunteers, nearly a thousand in number, had been on duty at Oswestry and Ellesmere. NEMO.

RICHARD AP SION (April 2, 1879).—Though I am unable to furnish the desired information concerning the personal history of Richard ap Sion, or, as he is more generally designated, "Rhisiart Sion Greulon," I may perhaps be allowed to state that the "Awdl," referred to by ROBYN FRYCH as being found in a fragment of an old MS. book of poetry preserved at Dolgelley, has appeared more than once in print. It was published the first time, if my knowledge is correct, in Gwilym Howel's *Almanack* ("Tymmhorol ac Wybrenawl Newyddion, neu Almanac Newydd") for the year 1774, p. 23. In that annual it is called "Awdl Rhisiart ap Sion," and has the following heading :—

Rhisiart ap Sion, gwr o wlad Gwynedd, ac un o Gards y frenhines Elsbeth Tudur, nid oedd gadarnach yn ei ddydd am y gwrol Gampau, ac efe ynghymru ryw bryd, Ebr of wrth Sion Tudur, Baxdd o'r oes hona yn ydych yn canu moliant i hwn ar llall, ac weddihau'n rhoi clod heb ei haeddu; mi dymunwn glywed beth ar bawb o'm gwlad; Yna Sion, yr ysmala, addawodd iddo ganiat yr hon a yrrodd ar ei ol i Lundain; danfonwyd imi yn ddiweddar oddiyno, ni bu erioed yn brintiedig ar a glywais.

Then follows the Awdl, at the end of which it is stated "Sion Tudur, ai cant, 1580." In a footnote we are informed, that "for the better conceiving an Idea of this curious Poem, the compiler hath added the following Notes in ease to the Reader." These notes, of which there is a considerable number, all written in English, refer mostly to the proper names with which the Awdl abounds.

The Awdl was printed the second time in the *Brython* for 1858, p. 215 (accompanied by Welsh notes), and with much greater accuracy than in the first edition. The englyn quoted by ROBYN FRYCH stands in the Almanack edition thus :—

Cawr Orlas gwynias Gwynedd, cryf ewin,
Carw o Fuellt orsedd;
Trwy glod y tery a'i gledd,
Naw o gawri yn eu gorwedd !

And the annotator states that *Orlas* is intended for *Arche-laus*. It is said that it was this Awdl that suggested to Dean Lloyd his "Legend of Captain Jones," which was first published in 1636 (not 1656, as stated in Williams's "Eminent Welshmen"); and "Awdl Deicyn yr Adarwr," by Rhys Jones of Blaenau, is a pretty close imitation of it, though the hero is of a different type. I have the impression, too, that Thomas Pryor of Plas Iolyn wrote a poem in a similar strain. The fifth stanza of the Awdl under consideration is familiar to many Welsh readers, it being quoted in Robert Davies's Welsh Grammar as an example of false quantity; and reads as follows :—

Asia Ewropia i'w ran—a gafodd,
Gafael Ffrainc a'r Alban,
Deffroi gwlad Affrig Iydan,
Curo'r Twrc a'i yru i'r tan.

I have thus given a short account of this curious Awdl, and I trust that some other contributor will be able to furnish us with some account of its hero. GWYDDAN.

CURRENT NOTES.

A correspondent of a contemporary writes that the custom of strewing the graves in the churchyard with flowers on Palm Sunday is still observed at Albrighton and other Shropshire villages. On that day "sorrowing friends might be seen coming, some of them from long distances, laden with these rustic offerings." . . . "Our graveyards presented the appearance of a vast flower garden." Daffodils predominated, "many of them having been gathered for this purpose in and around the woods of Boscobel and White Ladies."

SUGGESTIONS RELATIVE TO THE CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of BYE-GONES.

SIR,—The Cambrian Archæological Association is now upwards of 30 years old—covering the period of a generation. The present generation is not acquainted with its earlier productions. Some think the labours of the Society are desultory—many of its writers seem to confine their articles to skimming the cream off each subject and not going deeply into details.

It is beyond question that a vast amount of valuable information has been accumulated in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, the organ of the Association, during the 30 years of its existence, which can only be properly estimated and appreciated by those who attempt to enlarge upon the subjects of the original articles.

But the drawback is that the information is scattered over 30 volumes, in fragmentary bits, not always very consistent, but still affording sources of information which will prove invaluable to the future historian, topographer, and antiquarian.

After the lapse of a generation it seems desirable that an attempt should be made to classify and arrange and analyse the information thus rendered available. Everyone has not £30 to expend in the acquisition of the 30 volumes of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, and no less a sum is necessary for that purpose.

It appears to many that the time has arrived when an effort may with advantage be originated, for digesting the information thus collected during the 30 years of the C.A.A.'s existence, and systematically arranging and analysing it—rejecting what little may be found to be chaff, but utilizing the bulk, which is most valuable, and not obtainable elsewhere, and supplementing it where deficient.

To enter somewhat more into details, it is suggested that it would be desirable to initiate in connection with the C.A.A. a movement in every county in Wales—a work such as that which a daughter-Society has done and is doing for one of the Welsh counties. That Society freely acknowledges the great obligations it is under to the C.A.A. The mere collection and re-printing, with such modifications and additions as may be practicable, of all articles in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* respecting any particular parish, would soon form a large addition to the parochial histories of each county in the Principality.

The information from the *Arch: Camb:* with such additions as could readily be made by a resident on the spot, could easily be classified under general heads, such as the following, which were formerly suggested in the *Arch: Camb:—*

- i. Physical feature and description.
- ii. Population.
- iii. Archæological—

(a) British	}	periods.
(b) Roman		
(c) Saxon		
(d) Medieval and modern		
- iv. Ecclesiastical Establishment.
- v. Folk-lore.
- vi. Biographical.
- vii. Linguistical and Typographical.
- viii. Nonconformity.
- ix. Education.

Under each of these nine heads it would be easy to amplify and sub-divide on a fixed plan.

If no one individual may be able to complete a parochial history—possibly many would be able and willing to undertake some one or more particular section or sections.

Our observations hitherto relate only to parochial histories. But other subjects readily suggest themselves. A collection of the information which the *Arch: Camb:* affords on the following subjects may be advantageously made—

The Cromlechau
The Cinerary Urns found in different parts of the Principality
The Roman Roads
The Moated Mounds
The Tumuli
The Maenau hirion

These are given as examples which could easily be multiplied.

This condensation and weeding and classification would, if submitted, augment the value of the *Arch: Camb:*. If the scheme be entertained, it may, perhaps, be expedient to begin a fresh series; but it is not contemplated that the ordinary work of the *Archæologia Cambrensis* should be interfered with, but only that the classified work should be added and form a part of each number, and perhaps, be separately paged, in the same way as "Original Documents" are now printed.

The advantages anticipated would be, that new members taking the new series would have the benefit of all the past valuable work of this time-honoured Institution;

whilst it is conceived the C.A.A. itself would be greatly benefited by the large addition of members it would be likely to have, and would, moreover, receive a great literary impetus which would probably render it the most influential and extensive Literary Society in the provinces.—Yours, &c., F.S.A.

APRIL 30, 1879.

NOTES.

PERCY'S RELIQUES.

The following interesting letter, which originally appeared in the *Salopian and West Midland Journal*, has been revised and corrected by the author, Mr. Pickford, we may remark, wrote the Life of the Bishop for "Bishop Percy's Folio Manuscript," edited by Hales and Furnival, and published in 1867. ED.

AN OLD BOOK AND ITS STORY.

In 1679, that is to say, when Charles II. was King of England, there was borne to his grave in the Chancel of Orleton, in the County of Hereford, a clever Templar, named Thomas Blount, Author of "Jocular Tenures," "Boscobel," "Glossographia," "A Law Dictionary."—A tablet in that church still indicates the resting place of his mortal remains.

Time rolled on, witnessing the extinction of the Stuart dynasty, and the firm establishment, after many struggles, of the house of Brunswick on the British Throne, and shortly after George the Third of that name, had succeeded, a book made its appearance, destined to make the fortune of its editor. It was given to the world in 1765, more than eighty years after Thomas Blount had been sleeping beneath the worn pavement of Orleton Chancel. The Editor was a young clergyman, named Thomas Percy, vicar of a quiet Northamptonshire parish, called Easton Mauduit. But what possible connecting link can there be between Blount and Percy? An answer is returned. Percy, when, to use his own words, he was very young, and in no degree an antiquary, had found an old MSS. volume lying dirty on the floor under a Bureau in the Parlour being used by the maids to light the fires. He begged this book from its owner, Humphrey Pitt, of Shifnal, who told him that he believed that the copies of the ballads in it were made by Thomas Blount. Percy was born in 1729, and, it may be supposed, that he became possessor of this book when an undergraduate at Oxford, some twenty years later. The book in question is very like an old ledger, about fifteen-and-a-half inches long, by five-and-a-half wide.

What great events spring from the most trifling causes! Had this book been totally destroyed perhaps the tastes of Percy might have never been directed to that channel, to which he subsequently brought such power. He might never have sung himself into a stall, and eventually into a throne. *The Reliques of Ancient English Poetry* might never have issued from the press, delighting not only his contemporaries, but the present age, and destined to delight generations yet unborn. Here, let it be observed, that though this old book or rather that portion saved from the flames certainly formed the basis, or nucleus of the *Reliques*, yet out of it only forty-five pieces were printed, amongst the one hundred and eighty pieces in his first Edition. He drew the bulk of his treasures from many other mines. However the old MSS Folio must, as was before observed, have the credit of being the primary origin of *The Reliques*, and by consequence also that of making the fortunes of Percy. The very existence of it was denied by the sceptical Ritson, who boldly affirmed that all the ballads were fabrications, and certainly many were altered and polished up by Percy to such a degree that very little of the original matter was left. The handling of them forcibly reminds one of the restoration of a church at the present day, when all the epitaphs, and antiquities are ruthlessly swept away, and even the fabric itself injured. Percy, was unquestionably a man superior to the false taste of his day, yet unable to resist, and perhaps also from prudential motives, to a certain extent, yielding to its vitiated appetites. He had also considerable misgivings as to his success as an editor, or to speak more correctly, as to the success of his book. Those, be it remembered were the days, "the teacup times of hood and hoop," when there was little real gold under much heavy tinsel. So much artificiality, so little real genuineness was in existence. So

he introduced the ballads carefully dressed, to the gentlemen habited in their bag-wigs, and laced ruffles, and the ladies dressed in their hooped petticoats covered with silk and velvet, high-heeled shoes, and powdered hair. The result however of the venture was on the whole successful, and ultimately remunerative in more senses than one.

The first edition of the *Reliques of Ancient English Poetry* was dedicated in a rather fulsome preface to Elizabeth, Countess of Northumberland, one of the most good humoured of ladies, "who adorns courts by her presence, and diffuses elegance by her example." Her portrait yet looks proudly down, dressed in her gorgeous robes, in the dining room at Alnwick Castle, and her stately monument may be seen at the present moment in St. Nicholas' Chapel in the Abbey at Westminster, where at the age of sixty she was buried, some twelve years afterwards. Edition succeeded edition, and Percy published several more works of great interest and importance, though his fame must chiefly rest upon his first-born's success. In 1778 he became Dean of Carlisle, and in 1782, Bishop of Dromore in Ireland, where he died in 1811. His epitaph in that cathedral speaks of him as "discharging the duties of his sacred office with vigilance and zeal, instructing the ignorant, relieving the necessitous, and comforting the distressed with pastoral affection."

Percy indeed led the van of a large army, whose ranks have ever been recruited, and numbers in it, nay, all its soldiers, have expressed their sense of obligations to him for his services, in acting as a pioneer, and in forming their taste. Sir Walter Scott, greatest of all, has narrated what a charm the *Reliques* had for him. Let him tell his own story when a boy of thirteen. "The first time, too, I could scrape a few shillings together, which were not common occurrences with me, I bought unto myself a copy of these delightful volumes, nor do I believe I ever read a book half so frequently, or with half the enthusiasm." The charming imitations of the old ballads in the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* owe their origin to *The Reliques*, but perhaps Scott's own chef d'œuvre in that line was the *Battle of Harlaw*, in one of his best novels, *The Antiquary*. There he almost exceeded himself, and carries his readers with him to that fatal field, by the side of the Earl of Glenallan, and his faithful squire, Roland Cheyne.

As to the old book once belonging to Humphrey Pitt, and given by him to Thomas Percy, it slumbered for many years in the archives at Acton Hall, near Northampton, at the present time the seat of his grandson Ambrose Isted, Esq., the son of the bishop's daughter, Barbara Percy. In 1866, owing to the exertions of Mr. Furnival and his disbursement of a considerable sum, it was lent to him for some months, and was reprinted verbatim. It now reposes in the British Museum. In 1876, under the editorial hands of Mr. H. B. Wheatley, an excellent edition of *The Reliques*, and at present (1878) the best, was issued, which does as much credit to the publishers as to him as an editor; an edition, indeed, not likely to be superseded or surpassed. Shropshire, verily, has had many worthies of whom she may well be proud, and not the least celebrated of them is Thomas Percy, whose abilities won for him deserved eminence in his profession and an honoured name wherever the English language is spoken.

JOHN PICKFORD, M.A.

Newbourne Rectory, near Woodbridge.

QUERIES.

MANGANESE IN FLINTSHIRE.—Sometime early in 1805, in sinking a well near Penbedw, in Flintshire, the seat of Watkin Williams, Esq., at the depth of eight or nine yards a most plentiful bed of Manganese was discovered. Was this discovery ever turned to good account? G.G.

MR. WILLIAM MORRIS A WELSHMAN.—Mr. William Morris the poet is a Welshman. So we learn from "Celebrities at Home" in the *World*. Mr. Morris's method has been compared with Chaucer's. In answer to this Mr. Morris is reported to have said:—"It is a mistake to compare my method with that of Chaucer. I have read Chaucer and studied him with increasing pleasure, but I never deliberately attempted to imitate him. It would be a hopeless as well as a foolish task. He was a man writing, in the most French of all possible

styles, thought eminently English; so English that his very grossness is not repulsive, that his broad sense of humour colours the whole of his wonderful picture. Now my humble attempts are in an entirely different direction, are the work of a man of different race—for I am a Welshman, and like my race possess only narrative power and picturesqueness, the attributes of the Celt, as distinct from those of the Norman Englishman as it is possible to imagine." Can any one give us the parentage and birth-place of the author of the *Earthly Paradise*? E.

ROYAL OAK HOTEL, WELSHPOOL.—In the Reprint of *Bye-gones* for 1878, which I have recently received, I find on page 126 an interesting account of Welshpool in the old Coaching days, taken from the *Licensed Victuallers' Gazette*. The article is headed "Royal Oak Hotel, Welshpool," and the house throughout the text is called the "Royal Oak." In the newspapers of the first quarter of this century, certainly, and I think at later dates, the house was always called "The Oak Inn." When was "Inn" changed to "Hotel," and the word "Royal" prefixed? As regards the former, my impression is that the word "Hotel" in Shropshire and on the Borders is a comparatively modern innovation. BLACKPOOL.

BUCKLEY OF BRYNDDU, ANGLESEA.—In a former communication I asked some particulars respecting Craig Howell (Feb. 26, 1879). In the same article in which I found that place mentioned there is also a notice of the above loyalist. The writer says of him that he resided near Llanfdechell, and was one of the ancestors of Mr. W. B. Hughes, M.P. :—

When he heard of the dethronement of King Charles, he swore he would not shave himself until the restoration of the monarchy, which oath he kept sacred, and for which cause he was called "Buckley y Farf." Such a zealous royalist was not to be despised; a party of armed men therefore came to Bryn-ddu one day to arrest him, but the two servant girls, taking each a long axe in their hands, met them, in a menacing attitude, at the threshold, and so kept them at bay, until their master was safe through the back, and far on his way to his chosen hiding place—a capacious cavern in Cremllyn Bay, and it is said that he spent most of his time there until the Restoration. Moreover it is currently reported that his provisions were carried to our hero regularly by some females from Llanfdechell, by whom he had many illegitimate children while hiding himself in the said cave, and the Buckleys of Mynydd Mechell to this day are said to be descendants of these illegitimate children.

The writer of this, who signs himself "O.G.," is very pronounced on the "dreadful atrocities" committed in that age by "the fiends" i.e., the Parliamentaries, and he gives some marvellous "stories." His idea of a "hero" is somewhat hazy, if a man who runs away whilst a couple of women beat away the enemy, is his notion of one; and who behaves so badly to them afterwards, to boot!

N.W.S.

REPLIES.

EMINENT WELSHMEN (Oct. 23, 1878.)—You have already given the names of sundry "eminent" Welshmen ignored by Mr. Williams, and known to the world only by the obituaries of magazines and newspapers. I have just met with another, the author of "many poetical effusions, in his native tongue, which do equal honour to his genius and his moral worth." His name was Thomas Jones; distinguished as "Rhaiadry," and by profession an Exciseman, dying in Frome in 1817.

ANON.

THE BICKERTON FAMILY (Aug. 21, 1878).—At this date "J.T.R." gave, from an old family record, some reference to this old family. In *Notes and Queries* of Mar. 1, 1879, there is an account of "Counsellor Bickerton," an eccentric Oxonian, who died early in this century, and whose portrait is preserved in the Bodleian Library. The writer (Mr. Rigaud) says, "Counsellor Bickerton claimed to be of a good family, from the county of Cheshire or borders of Wales, and of this old family he compiled the history and traditions, and printed them in a volume." This book he called—

Multum Desideratum, or a Few Hints concerning the Bickertons, who lived in Cheshire after they came into England with William the Conqueror, and respecting S. Bickerton, A.B., C.P., Queen's College, Oxford, of the same Family. Together with a Concise Address to Friends, &c., to inform Them how they may be Rich and Happy in the Time Present and Future, with a Representation of the Three Broad Arrows, the Family Coat of Arms of the aforesaid Person. Second Edition. Reprinted by the Desire of and to Accommodate the Friends who live at a Distance.

There is no copy of this work in the Bodleian, Mr. Rigaud says. If any reader of *Bye-gones* has access to a copy a few of the "Hints" would probably interest others, besides the descendants of the "Bickerton Family."

NEMO.

SHREWSBURY SHOW IN 1804 (Oct. 16, 1878.) This "time-honoured pageant" seems to have received but scant attention from the editors and reporters, when the Shrewsbury papers were young and vigorous. Here is all that is said in the *Salopian Journal*, of June, 6, 1804 :—

The Annual Festival of Shrewsbury Show took place on Monday last, at Kingsland, where the usual variety of amusements, aided by the fineness of the weather, attracted a numerous and respectable company.

It may be that Proud Salopians of that date were too much absorbed in military spectacles to care much for mere tom-foolery; and only a week earlier the same paper recorded at some length a water-procession on the Severn by the Mayor and Corporation, from Mardol Quay to the parade ground of the Shropshire Volunteers, who were assembled, to the number of nearly 2,000, to have colours presented to them by the Mayor of the county town.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

MAY 7, 1879.

NOTES.

SIR WILLIAM MAURICE OF CLENENNEY.

From Mrs. Brynkir (wife of Robert Wynn Brynkir of Brynkir, Esq., sheriff for Carnarvonshire in 1595) to her brother, Sir Wm. Maurice of Clenenney. (From the original at Brogyntyn) :—

"Right wor'full and louing brother I com'end me vnto you hoping that you are in health—adioyning vnto that my dailie preiers for the p'servac'on of your worships health &c, you shall understand that my Ladie and my Cozen Jane Griffith are in health, and all we in gen'all at home, longinge for your retorne homwards &c; Lovinge brother the reporte of your Countrie men friends and neibours is that you should be warie heddie to solister your buisness well at London, for here, within the Countie of the Marches, your worshipspe and your men are deeplie fined, & noe shewed you any favour their, as you shall p'ceve in a letter written vnto me by Gruffith

Jones, w'ch sheweth you all at lardge, the w'ch letter you shall find in this letter enclosed. Therefore your advisement is, & others of your well willers, That you should acquaint your sovereigne Lord the King, (god blesse him) how you are delt w'ith all w'ith the Counsell, & how hardlie Justice Barker doth vse you nowe at you' latter yeers & age, & while you attend vpon his highnes & cannot be your selfe attendinge you'r buisness at home, to shewe him howe youe are find [fined] everie where, as well at the great sessions as w'ith the Counsell of the Marches; And me thinkes you should desier his m'atte to speake to my Lord Chaunce'ler and my Lo: president to vse you well, & to shewe you some favour therby, for the great service that you have done in her ma'ti Raigne, and alsoe in his ma'ti Raigne, beinge Knight of the shire soe manie yeers, & attendinge vpon the Parliament soe due-lie and true as you have done: By reason alsoe that you are his god father and intited his highnes Kinge of great Britaine. Let his ma'tie therefore speake in your behalfe a word or to, or els you will favour the worst other wise, be not abashed to speake w'ith his highnes at this time, & desier his highnes that you maie be dealte w'ith all and to find such favour at his ma'tie hand as Queene Elizabeth did before him—"

(So far the letter is in the hand of an amanuensis. It then goes on as follows):—

"I desier yo'r wor' to take in good part my bouldnes with my secretary Gorge, whomis gone to sarue the sirif of Anlicy [Anglesea] a senight a goe. Mr. Williams and his company cometh hether some three weekes hence, and you most remember to send spicis to ossist w'ith as sonne as you may, that we may send for them home against ther coming, & I pay [pray] you to s[en]d a litel rose alolis [rosa solis] in a botel for I am not v[er]y wel now nor haue not bin this thre days by reso[lu]n of som grif I haue in my bake & Tommas ap Rice remembreth his duty unto you & prais you to bi..... a sperr for'r the garden and seeds for ther is non to [be] had in this Cuntrey—my lady wiles you to send h[er] a bottel of sinamint water & another with sallet . . . Good brother I could haue no mony of yo'r tenants by no mens [means] and som of them greues me worst than others. Moris ap Elisae [Ellis] promisethe money eurey day and others besides him, which you shall knoe of when you com home, god willing—I could get no mony of any of them but xxs I had of Robert ap Pue ap Rinalt, which I gaue the boy to bring his chargis to London—my cosen Grase verch Humfrey has her duty vnto you, and she is not contented that her sone should be bound printis for sheehath no mony to despurce with him, & especially shee will not haue him to be tailor— she prais for yo'r wor' and desiers you to place him for a whill in som seruiss—I pray you to enquier in the Court of warse [Wards] concerning Tommas Pue: and I did send the parson of llauehenel a traïse [Llanfihangel y Traethau] v[er]y for moris Robert— thus with my hartie commendacions and daily praiserse for yo'r helth I end and rest

"Yo'r louing to comand ANN WEN BR . . .
I pray you to case [cause] Owen Johns to enquier for my vncll John ap Robert win whether he be alieue or ded.

"from Klenneny thes 6th of february 1603"

W.

[A couple of centuries ago the education of ladies was sadly neglected, and Mrs. Brynkr's letter may be taken as a fair specimen of the times. She was evidently a woman of business, as her advice to her brother proves. The allusion to his services to the King in the matter of title has been already referred to in *Bye-gones* (see p. 211, Reprint of 1873, and p. 183, Reprint of 1879). Another week we hope to give the Original Proclamation, from the unique copy at Peniarth.—ED.]

QUERIES.

THE OLD SCREEN AT NEWTOWN.—At the Easter Vestry the Rector of Newtown stated that the beautiful screen from the old church was packed up, and would be replaced when the church was restored. A history of the screen would be interesting. I once saw a report that it was put up to auction! Was this true?
E.

REPLIES.

BAILIFFS OF WEM (Mar. 19, 1879).—That Wem had a charter, and a very ancient one, may be gathered from Garbett's *History*; but during the later years of its existence the duties of the Bailiffs acting under it were very limited. Garbett says that formerly "they were called at the assizes, among the justices, till on the representation of Doctor, then Mr. Eyton, rector of Wem, their appearance for the future was dispensed with." This passage is obscure. Dr. Eyton was appointed rector of Wem in 1718, and in 1725 was "put into the Commission of the peace for the county of Salop." After the bailiff's services had been dispensed with as a magistrate his chief duty seems to have been to organize public movements in the town, and regulate the weights and measures in the market. Until the year 1730 the bailiffs of Wem seem to have worn "furred gowns" when on duty, but about that time one who was elected was sensible enough not to make an exhibition of himself, so the custom got into disuse. During the gown-wearing period of their existence, the bailiffs, present and past, all so attired, went four times a year in procession to the parish church, and on some of these occasions they gave "roast beef and ale," or ale alone, to the burgesses in general, and a dinner to particular friends. Some of the rights and privileges of burgesses, as they existed early in last century, I will give another week.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

CURRENT NOTES.

CELTIC LANGUAGES OF THE BRITISH ISLES.

A paper interesting to all the Celtic race of the British Isles was recently read before the Statistical Society at King's College, by Mr. E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S. The subject was, we believe, the first attempt to solve the geographical and numerical relation of the Welsh, Gaelic, Manx, and Irish-speaking population of the islands.

The learned and able author summarized the Celtic-speaking population (that is those speaking both languages) as under:—

Irish Gaels	866,000
Manxmen	12,500
Scotch Gaels	309,000
Welsh	1,006,300

of whom there were 62,000 Welsh-speaking Celts in England.

We give portions of the paper relating to Wales. The author acknowledged that the Welsh were the most important and interesting of the Celtic population of these islands.

WALES.

I shall begin my survey with the border counties, tracing in every instance the linguistic boundary embracing those districts in which Welsh is spoken by a majority of the inhabitants.

Flintshire has a mixed population, but that portion of the county which lies within the linguistic boundary is as purely Welsh as any other part of Wales. In Maelor Saesneg, the Saxon land (43 square miles, 5,948 inhabitants), a detached portion of the county, Welsh has wholly disappeared since the days of Henry VIII. When Defoe visited Bangor Monachorum, about 1730, he failed to procure a guide capable of giving the explanations he required. At the present day English alone is spoken.

The linguistic boundary which separates the county proper in two portions of very unequal size begins at Wepre, at the mouth of the river Dee, runs south-west, crossing the river Alyn above Hope, and then follows closely the right bank of the river mentioned. All to the south-east of that line, with the exception that a large number of Welsh labourers are employed in the hamlets of Chemistry, Shoffon, Queensferry, Pentre, and Sandycroft, all of them near the Dee, in the Saltnay township of Hawarden. These labourers, forming about 40 per cent. of the population of the township, are immigrants, and their children do not learn Welsh. In the Western portion of the parish of Hope (Hope Mountain, beyond the river Alyn), Welsh still keeps its ground, but with difficulty. In the towns of Welsh Flintshire English is of course the language of business, but Welsh is spoken by the bulk of the people. In Holywell (3,540 inhabitants, of whom 95 per cent. speak Welsh), and in Mold (3,976 inhabitants) it is said to maintain its ground, but in Flint and St. Asaph it is gradually being superseded by English. In the meantime nearly all religious services are carried on in Welsh, and there is hardly a Sunday-school in which it is not employed.

The English portion of Flintshire has an area of 53 square miles, with 13,111 inhabitants, of whom 750 speak Welsh. The Welsh portion embraces 211 square miles, with 53,201 inhabitants, of whom 52,560, or 90·3 per cent., speak Welsh.

Denbighshire, with the exception of territory of limited extent, but including the important town of Wrexham, is wholly Welsh. The linguistic boundary enters the county a short distance to the west of the river Alyn, runs to the east of Brymbo and Broughton to within a couple of miles of Wrexham, then runs along the Great Western Railway until it reaches Offa's Dyke, that famous old national barrier, which it follows to the boundary of Shropshire, with this exception that Ruabon and its immediate vicinity are inclosed within it.

The territory to the east of this line is English. It has an area of 39 square miles, with 20,315 inhabitants, of whom only 800 speak Welsh. Within it lies the town of Wrexham, which had 8,576 inhabitants at the last census, but has now 10,000, and where Welsh is used by three or four congregations, English by twelve.

Ruabon (15,150 inhabitants in 1871, 18,000 now) lies within the Welsh boundary, all, or nearly all religious services are conducted there in Welsh, and "more Welsh is spoken every day," owing no doubt to the emigration of labourers. Only 600 persons are said to speak English, and 2,000 Welsh and English.

In the parish of Chirk, the Western portion of which is intersected by Offa's Dyke, there is a Welsh chapel, poorly attended, and Welsh is now understood only by a few old people.

In the parishes of Bersham, Broughton, Brymbo, Minera, and Esclusham above to the West of Wrexham, which have a total population of 13,259 souls, Welsh is spoken by seven-eighths of the population, and English by the same number, but further in the interior of the country, and more especially in those parts which are at some distance from railroads, the knowledge of English is still very limited, scarcely more than half of the inhabitants being able to express themselves in it.

In the parish of Llansilin, on the boundary of Shropshire, the children are said to know Welsh very imperfectly, and the information I have received tends to show that along the Dee, and in the valley of the Clwyd, up to Llanellidan, it is slowly losing ground, the railways proving its most powerful enemy. In the far greater portion of the county, however, it maintains its ground firmly, and the greater part of the religious services are conducted in Welsh. In Ruthin (3,293 inhabitants) Welsh is spoken by 85 per cent. of the inhabitants, and in Denbigh (6,323 inhabitants) it is employed in eleven out of fourteen places of worship. Very little English is spoken in the country districts.

Radnorshire, if the language now spoken by the vast majority of the inhabitants be allowed to decide, is a portion of England and not of Wales. In former ages, however it was purely Welsh. "The names of places (villages, farmhouses, hills, rivers, &c.), are almost exclusively Cymraeg. Amongst the inhabitants, however, there is a large admixture of Saxon names, which bespeak a considerable Saxon emigration." As in the Highlands, the natives of the county emigrate in considerable numbers to England, whilst natives of England settle in the county. In 1871 no less than 14 per cent. were natives of England. Welsh still lingers in the extreme north-western corner of the county, but elsewhere it is spoken only by a few immigrants. The existence of Welsh Black Letter Bibles like that at Nantmel, which dates back to the year 1620, shows that the extinction of Welsh is not to be measured by centuries. The services of the Church of

England throughout the county are conducted in English, with one curious exception—"at Rhayader, where four Welsh sermons must annually be delivered, under a bequest."

The Welsh language, as I have said, still lingers in the extreme west of the county. At Rhayader (976 inhabitants) 200 persons still speak Welsh, but the younger people have altogether forgotten it. A few classes in the Calvinist Sunday-schools are taught in Welsh. In the neighbouring parish of Cwmtydyddwr, Welsh is somewhat more general, especially in the valley of the Elan, above Nantwilt, and there are even two or three families who understand no English. In the parish of St. Harmon, some fifty years ago, when one of my contributors was a boy, all the services, with rare exceptions, were in Welsh. At the present day Welsh is only spoken by the older people, and a majority speak it only in that part of the parish which abuts upon the river Wye. As to Nantmel, Welsh appears to have been general about a hundred years ago. The Vicar now tells me that it is wholly extinct, whilst another informant makes it linger in the north-western part of the parish, towards Rhayader. Practically it is extinct. I believe a line which crosses the Wye above Rhayader and then runs south at some distance from it, to Elan Vale, where there is the only Welsh Baptist Chapel of the county, will be found to include that small portion of Radnorshire where Welsh is still the language of the majority. The small territory embraces 54 square miles, with 713 inhabitants, of whom 470 speak Welsh. Outside of it lies a smaller district of 20 square miles, with 2,000 inhabitants, inclusive of the town of Rhayader, within which about 530 speak Welsh. All the rest of Radnorshire is as completely English as any county in England.

Shropshire is an English county, but a small portion of its western extremity is Welsh, including the parishes of Selattyn, Llanylodwel, and the township of Sychtyn, which have an area of 19 square miles and 2,469 inhabitants, of whom 900 speak Welsh. The linguistic boundary is formed by Offa's Wall, and by a line running through the townships of Sychtyn to Garth-uchaf on the Afon Tanat, in the parish of Llanylodwel. To the west of that line Welsh preponderates, to the east English. In Selattyn Welsh is spoken now only by the older people, but there are still two services in Welsh to five in English. In the township of Sychtyn, the Welsh are in a majority. In Llanylodwel Welsh preponderates, in the west English, and the children of Welsh parents are often unable to speak Welsh. The Welsh service in the parish church has been discontinued since 1875, owing to a paucity of attendance. The few Welsh in the neighbouring parish of Llanymynech are immigrants, and Welsh immigrants are indeed numerous throughout Shropshire, and there are Welsh chapels at Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Houlston, Coedway, Bomer Heath, and Cynrybwch.

Montgomeryshire is one of those border counties in which Welsh is visibly losing ground. In the valley of the Severn, up to within a mile or two of Llanllwchaearn and Newtown, and to the east of that river, Welsh is heard only in the mouth of immigrants and of a few very old people. At Welshpool and Montgomery Welsh has been extinct among the natives for these fifty years. At Newtown, however, about 30 per cent. of the inhabitants are still able to converse in Welsh, and a similar proportion of Welsh speakers* is met with as far as Llanidloes, beyond which the Severn valley penetrates a territory which is still wholly Welsh. Along the whole of the Severn, from Llanidloes down to and beyond Newtown, Welsh is gradually being forgotten, although still largely employed in the religious services of the Dissenters and occasionally even in the Established Church.

Welsh has also disappeared from the valley of Lower Vyrnwy, next to the Severn the most important river of the county. At Llandysilio it is not spoken at all; in the parish of Llanymynech only by a few old people, and it is only when we enter the parish of Llansaintffraid yn Mechain that Welsh is heard more frequently. That parish is divided by the river Vyrnwy into two parts, in the northern part about one-half of the older people (say one-third of the population) speak Welsh, which is generally used in the services of the Nonconformists, and once a month in the Established Church. The younger people rapidly forget Welsh; in one Sunday School, out of eleven classes there are only two in which religious instruction is imparted in Welsh, and these two classes are attended by adults. In the southern part of the parish very little Welsh is spoken. Proceeding up the Vyrnwy we first enter the Welsh districts on approaching Meifod.

* Aberhafesp 20 per cent., Llandinam 27 per cent.

The linguistic boundary on crossing the northern boundary passes between Llansaintffraid and Llanfechain, strikes the Vyrnwy below, and follows that river up to Meitod, thence it runs south to Castle Caereinion, crosses the River Rhiw between New Mills and Llanwyddelan, leaving Manafon to the south. It then proceeds by Gregynog Hall and Bwlchlyfridd to Llanwrog, crosses the Cambrian railway at the Pont-dol-goch station, intersects the parish of Trefeglwys, approaches close to the Severn at Dollys, passes to the west of Llanidloes, and finally reaches the Radnorshire boundary to the east of the Wye. In the districts which border upon this line on the east Welsh is still spoken, but not by a majority, but to the west of it Welsh is the language of the bulk of the inhabitants. Indications are not wanting that Welsh is slowly losing ground on the eastern watershed of the county, but on the western slope, in Cyfelliog, its hold is firm, even immigrants and their children frequently acquire it, and English is used very little in religious services. The following is a summary for the county :—

		Square miles.	Population.	Able to speak Welsh only.	Able to speak Welsh and English.	Proportion per cent. able to speak Welsh.
Welsh part {	Cyfelliog	115	8,794	4,700	4,000	98.9
	Eastern slope	346	19,123	1,570	12,740	75.1
Mixed districts		137	18,536	230	5,470	31.1
English		160	21,170	50	890	4.5
Total		758	67,623	6,600	23,100	43.9

Cardiganshire is Welsh throughout. Even at Aberystwyth, its principal town, the services in 11 out of 16 places of worship are conducted in Welsh, and though most of the inhabitants speak English, there are few who do not also understand Welsh. But whilst Welsh is slowly losing ground there, it is said firmly to maintain its hold upon the people throughout the rest of the county. Only immigrants and a few "aristocrats" do not understand it. Only in 3 places of worship are the services of the Established Church conducted in English; in 44 they are carried on in Welsh; in 39 in both languages. The Dissenting bodies make but little use of English. At the same time there exists a very general desire to acquire a knowledge of English, which is spoken, more or less fluently, by a majority of the inhabitants in the towns, and by many country people. In the more remote districts, however, not 10 in a 100 are able to read and write English correctly. Upon the whole, I believe we may assume that rather more than one-half of the inhabitants are able to express themselves in English.

Merioneth is quite as Welsh as Carnarvon, although a knowledge of English is more general. All speak Welsh, with the exception of immigrants and a few persons of the upper classes. All, or nearly all, speak English in towns, and among many of the younger people in the country districts Welsh maintains its ground. A "man of Harlech," 60 years of age, writes that "there is a great increase in the knowledge of English as long since I remember, but I do not think that there is any diminution in Welsh speaking, reading, writing, or preaching. Nearly all religious services, including those of the Church of England, are conducted in Welsh."

Carnarvon is quite as Welsh as its southern neighbour, although owing to the larger number of English immigrants, the number of persons speaking Welsh is relatively smaller. Nearly all religious services are conducted in Welsh, and Welsh maintains its ground among young and old. English is "understood by many, spoken by very few." The majority of the older inhabitants do not understand it, except in the principal towns of the south, where its use, for business purposes, is universal. The

† A correspondent at Llansaintffraid has kindly forwarded to me a boundary line described in the "Bye-gones" column in the *Oswestry Advertiser* for 2nd Oct., 1873. That line I accept in its main features; I do not, however, include Llansaintffraid within it, for in that parish the majority no longer speak Welsh.

children of immigrants, I am informed, learn Welsh in most cases. In the town of Bangor 3,500 persons speak Welsh only, 5,000 Welsh and English, and 1,000 English only. English is employed in one church and two small chapels, whilst the services in three large churches and seven chapels are conducted in Welsh. The Board of Guardians, the Vestry, and the two School Boards of the district, transact their business in Welsh, and the circulation of the two Welsh weekly papers in the town is four times that of their two English contemporaries.

In Bangor Welsh is spoken except by about 300 natives of England. In Conwy only 50 persons are stated not to be able to speak Welsh, whilst at the favourite seaside town of Llandudno 250 persons speak Welsh only, 2,312 Welsh and English, and 200 English, the Welsh services being four times more numerous attended than the English ones.

Anglesey, in spite of its Saxon name, is thoroughly Welsh, and the knowledge of English is more restricted in that county than in any other portion of similar extent throughout Wales. I am even assured that Welsh "is studied to a greater extent by the younger generation than formerly, and that even English immigrants learn a little Welsh." Welsh is almost exclusively used in all churches, chapels, and Sunday schools, those of the Roman Catholic Irish, who are numerous at Holyhead, excepted.

Breconshire is much influenced by its contact with English speaking districts, but for the present the language of the majority is Welsh. English is invading the county from three points, viz., from Builth, from Hay, and Abergavenny, on the Usk. The immediate neighbourhood of Builth, including villages having such thoroughly Welsh names as Maesmynis and Llanddewi'rwm, has become quite English, and only on rare occasions can a Welsh sermon be heard there. Hay, on the Hereford frontier, and the neighbouring parishes of Llanigon and Aberlunwy, are likewise English, Welsh being spoken only by a few old people and immigrants. It appears to have survived longest at Capelyffin, an outlying hamlet of Llanigon, near the head of the Afon Honddu. At Talgarth Welsh was common many years ago, but is now spoken only by a minority. At Crickhowel, on the Usk, it is spoken only by old people, and Welsh services are no longer heard in the Parish Church, though still continued in four Dissenting chapels. The neighbouring parish of Llangenny has become completely Anglicised.

Brecknock, the capital, in the very centre of the country, has become a fourth focus, whence English spreads in all directions. It is used there only by the older people, and declining rapidly.

Throughout the remainder of the county Welsh remains to the present day the language of the vast majority, it being heard the most frequently in the country extending from the river Usk towards Glamorganshire. In the districts to the north of the Usk it is spoken by about 80 per cent., and in the valley of the Yrfon, in the north-west, by 75 per cent.; Llanwrtyd, however, on the Carmarthen border, being wholly Welsh. The only large town in which Welsh is spoken by a majority is Brynmawr, on the Monmouthshire frontier.*

Welsh is said to lose ground, in some cases rapidly, nearly throughout, but in the south and extreme west it is said to maintain itself, though English is coming into more general use.

MAY 14, 1879.

NOTES.

ORIGINAL LETTERS WRITTEN BY THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN.

The original of the following half jocular epistle from "The Ladies of Llangollen," to Mrs. Puleston of Emral, is preserved amongst the Peniarth MSS. :—

"Accept Dear Mrs. De Puleston our best wishes for the little animal you have so kindly accepted— proving not very unworthy its kind & valued owners. A little tribute to the Gardens of that venerable mansion of which we talk and think so much— & the truly affectionate regards of your and Mr. de Puleston's

"Greatly obliged and faithful
"humble ser'ts

"E.B. & S.P.

* Brynmawr, 5,739 inhabitants (100 Welsh, two-thirds English and Welsh.)

"A thousand thanks for the inestimable Frankincense from Eleanor de Boteler— as many apologies for this horrid scrawl— and as many compliments to Miss de Puleston— whose cold we hope took its departure before the Wrexham Races & has not since been heard of—

"Plas Newydd, Llangollen Vale,
"12th Oct. 1809."

The "little animal" mentioned here was a calf referred to in a former letter, dated Oct. 3, 1809, which The Ladies had given to Mrs. Puleston. In that letter they wrote to arrange about sending the animal, and say, "We entreat the additional favour of a previous line by post to say what day the little Lady will be sent for," in order that they may take out of the ground and pack, "a few Gentinella and other plants," which they wish to send as fresh as possible for replanting at Emral. ED.

QUERIES.

GEORGE MEARES, ESQ.—Mr. Hulbert, in one of his many rambling works, records the fact that "on the road from Trefeglwys, about a mile from Llanidloes, is the seat of George Meares, Esq., to whom a valuable piece of plate was presented by the hundred of Llanidloes, in the year 1827, as a token of the high estimation in which he was held as a gentleman and a magistrate." I presume there have always been "gentlemen and magistrates" in the county for whom the people feel "high estimation," but we don't present them with testimonials. What were the special services Mr. Meares rendered? H.B.

BRAWNING.—At one time Shrewsbury was a^s celebrated for its Brawn as Cheshire for its Cheese; and I have seen an advertisement dated Oct. 17, 1804, in which William Howell, butcher, Oswestry, thanks the public for "last year's encouragement in the Brawn business," and announces that he "has engaged a Person from Shrewsbury well acquainted with the brawning," so hopes to receive still greater "encouragement" in the year to come. Did Oswestry ever make any headway in "Brawning"? OLD OSWESTRY.

REPLIES.

FIVES COURTS (Apr. 16, 1879).—It is difficult to suppose that the ancient game of fives or hand ball, which was very popular as early as the 14th century, was not played extensively in Wales and on the Borders. The means of practising the game were found wherever there was a wall sufficiently high and free from openings or projections. The church towers thus seem to have been used at an early period. In the first quarter of the present century the south wall of the church tower at Oswestry was a favourite place with the young men of the town. At the same period there were two fives courts in the town—one at the Grammar School and the other at the back of the Red Lion inn on the Bailey Head. The former, I believe, still exists, but the latter is amongst the things that were. I am not quite certain, but I am under the impression that the following incident led to the suppression of the Red Lion fives court. Among the players were two young men—Joyce, a watchmaker working for Mr. Campbell, in the Cross, and Jones, a bricklayer, but called "basket-maker," because his father followed that calling. These young men quarrelled in the ball court; a fight ensued, and by an unfortunate blow Jones was killed. I cannot state with certainty what the verdict was upon the occasion, but, of course, there was an inquest held. Another fives court was built at considerable expense. This was at the White Lion, the rebounding wall being the gable of the theatre, then re-

cently built. The court was enclosed by lofty walls on the other three sides, and everything seemed complete. One night, however, the walls collapsed, and in the morning there was an unsightly heap of ruins. The walls were never rebuilt, but the bricks were used in the erection of a maltkiln, which still occupies the spot; and now the theatre itself has become a maltkiln also.

BEN STARCH.

Before the old building on the Bailey Head was converted into a market and called the Powis Hall, I remember a Fives Court attached to the Red Lion public house. In the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* for July 22, 1825, that house was advertised for sale. "Mr. R. Maddox" was the auctioneer, and "Mr. Pugh, solicitor, Oswestry," the legal gentleman into whose hands the property was entrusted. The advertisement described the place as, "All that old-established and well-accustomed Public House, called or known by the Red Lion, situate in the Market Place in the town of Oswestry, together with the Stables, Fives Court, and extensive Garden thereunto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. William Crowder." By this it would appear that the "Fives Court" was an important element in the value of the property.

OSWALD.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (Apr. 16, 1879). The Shrewsbury newspapers of May 29, 1835, contained an account of what, to this age, would be indeed a novelty, and which was then not of every-day occurrence. In recording the event the reporter says—"The King's Birthday was celebrated in this town yesterday by a procession of the coaches belonging to Mr. Taylor, of the Lion Office. The sight, from the interest it afforded in former years, attracted vast crowds, who were loud in expressing their pleasure at the noble teams, the elegant harnessings and furniture, the gaily decked vehicles, and the splendid manner in which they were driven. The processions of other years were far outshone by the present, both in number of carriages, beauty of cattle, and management, conduct, and dresses of the coachmen and guards." The newspaper then gives a list of the coaches, as follows:—

Coaches.	Drivers.	Colour of Team.
London Mail.....	Ward.....	Four Roans.
Bristol Mail.....	Evans.....	Four Chesnuts.
Newtown Mail.....	Herbert.....	Four Duns.
Birmingham Mail.....	Peters.....	Four Browns.
Chester Mail.....	Leake.....	Four Blacks.
Wonder Coach.....	Hayward.....	Six Whites.
L'Hirondelle.....	Matthews.....	Four Greys.
Union.....	Walker.....	Four Bays.
Young Prince.....	Pead.....	Four Browns.
Sir Edw. Smythe.....		The Acton Burnell
Bart.		Greys and Piebalds.
Hawk.....	Barratt.....	Four Blacks.
Holyhead.....	Russ.....	Four Greys.
Aberystwith.....	Wilson.....	Four Bays.
Paul Pry.....	Morris.....	Four Greys.
Alert.....	Johnson.....	Four Chesnuts.
Hero.....	Davies.....	Four Bays.

After passing through the principal streets, the coaches proceeded down Castle Foregate, and turned up Howard-street, when, amidst firing of Cannon, and ringing of St. Mary's Bells, and the shouts of the people, the first stone of the new Butter and Cheese Market was laid by Mr. W. H. Griffiths, proprietor of the land.

This ceremony over, Mr. Griffiths "plentifully supplied the occupiers of the various coaches with good old port and sherry," and in the evening a dinner, "at once hospitable and elegant," was supplied by Mr. Carter, of the Hen and Chickens, "under a temporary awning upon the bold

slope near the Infirmary," at which Carter and Coachmen seemed to have enjoyed themselves, and were enlivened to a late hour by the various Bugles of the Guards. Several of the Shrewsbury tradesmen joined the dinner party.

The procession of coaches, I should say, was, primarily, got up to commemorate the King's birthday; the laying the foundation stone was a sudden thought that entered the mind of some of the parties interested, only the day before, and that was also intended to commemorate the same event, as an inscription on the foundation stone showed.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Wreacham Advertiser* points out a glaring blunder in Mr. Ravenstein's paper on the "Celtic Languages," which will be found on page 208. The writer seems to imply that there are 15,400 people in Ruabon parish who only speak Welsh; which is evidently absurd. The statement that nearly all the religious services are in Welsh is also ludicrously wide of the mark.

On Wednesday, April 30, the parish church of Donnington, near Albrighton, was re-opened after a partial restoration which has been carried out by the rector, the Rev. Prebendary De Bunsen. Mr. Norton was the architect. The interior of the church has been restored to something like its original simplicity and architectural beauty, and a north aisle has been added to compensate for the seats which were lost by taking down the galleries. The present chancel was built in 1300, and the nave was added in 1635. The old tower of the church, which, it will be remembered, suddenly and totally collapsed in March last, is about to be rebuilt. Donnington Church is not more than two hundred yards from the Church of Albrighton, from which it is separated by a pool. The preachers at the reopening services were the Bishop of Lichfield and the Rev. Canon Walsham How of Whittington.

DEATH OF MR. EVAN LLOYD.—We have to record the death, on the 2nd May, at 81, Carlton Hill, London, in his 79th year, of this gentleman. Mr. Lloyd for many years held a position of importance in the Inland Revenue Department. He was also known as the original publisher of the commentary of the late Rev. James Hughes, of London, as well as of the first newspaper which appeared in the Welsh language, viz., *Cronicle yr Oes*.

MAY 21, 1879.

NOTES.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

In the *Cambrian News* of May 9, 1879, I find it stated, in recording the death of Mr. Evan Lloyd, that he was the publisher "of the first newspaper which appeared in the Welsh language, viz., *Cronicle yr Oes*." This is an error. *Cronicle yr Oes* was not the first but the third Welsh newspaper. The earliest newspaper that ever appeared in the Welsh language was *Seren Gomer*, the first number of which saw the light on Saturday, the first of January, 1814, full twenty-one years before *Cronicle yr Oes* was started. It was published weekly at Swansea, and edited by the Rev. Joseph Harris (*Gomer*), for many years Baptist minister in that town. Ninety-five weekly issues of it had appeared, when, on the 9th of September, 1815, it was changed into a monthly magazine, and in that shape it continued to be published for many a long year. I have seen some of the earliest numbers of this now

very scarce weekly periodical. After the death of Harris it was removed to Carmarthen, afterwards to Aberdare, and eventually back to Swansea to become defunct.

The second Welsh newspaper was *Yr Oes*, a shortlived journal published at Aberystwyth in 1823. *Cronicle yr Oes* appeared at Mold in 1835, and was therefore the third newspaper in the vernacular, having had a year's start of *Y Brython* (Bala), *Y Papur Newydd Cymraeg* (Carnarvon), and *Y Freinlen Gymroaidd* (Aberystwyth), all of which appeared in 1836, and apparently were called into existence by the repeal of the newspaper duty.

A tolerably full and accurate account of the Welsh periodicals, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, and yearly, up to 1859, will be found in the *Brython*, ii., 154.

D.S.E.

"COMPOUNDERS" IN SOUTH WALES (Apr. 9, 1879).—Agreeably to promise we now give (from the Catalogue published in 1655) the names of the gentlemen in South Wales and Monmouthshire, who compounded for their estates. Where we have added a query we are not sure we have placed the name in the right county. ED.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

Herbert John, of Crickhoel	397	0	0
Jeffreys John, of Aberomrick, Esq.	380	0	0
Williams John of the Parke, gent.	50	18	0

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

Lloyd John, Langender	570	0	0
Lloyd John, of Crinvin, Esq.	140	0	0
Lloyd sir Fran. of Carmarthen, Knt.	1033	0	0
Midleton Henry, Llanarthuy, gent.	120	0	0
Rud Sir Rice of Aberglasny Barronet with 50l per ann. settled	80	0	0

Vaughan John of Llanely	227	13	4
Vaughan Sir George Penbrey	2609	0	0
Williams William of Mothry	102	0	0

CARDIGAN.

Jones John, of Namcrosse, Esq.	389	0	0
Lloyd Walter, Llanvair, Esq.	1003	9	0

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

Awbry Sir John of Llantryched, Knt. settled 25, per annum	410	13	4
Bulton Miles, Sir Nicholas (sic)	3	6	8
Curn Edward, Ewenty, Esq.	856	0	0
Mansell Harry, Llandewy, Esq.	193	8	4
Mathew Humphry of Castle Menith, Esq. ...	1397	6	8
Owens Morgans late Bishop of Llandaff per Morgan Owen his heir, with 50l. per annum settled	8	15	0

Pretty William, Guerny (lep,	126	15	0
Thomas William of Swanzey esq with 45l per annum settled	393	0	0
Thomas Walter Swanzy, Esq.	313	0	0
Thomas Sir Edward, Pethouce	2195	0	0

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Of Abergavenny, Lord John	531	5	9
Evans Edward, Triddleborough	48	0	0
Hughes Charles, Mathern	31	1	0
Huges Tho. in Lanvetherin in Mon.	105	0	0
Jones Edmund, Landfon-mannor, gent. (?) ...	70	6	8
Jones Sir Philip, of Tree-Owen, Knt. and William his son	1050	0	0
Jones James, of Lanvihangle Llanternam- Mannor, gent. (?)	20	0	0
Lloyd Sir Edward, Berthlloy-Mount (?)	61	4	8
Morgan Sir Edward, Pencoed	1007	0	0
Prober Henry, Esq. and Sir George his son of Pantglass	134	0	0
Somerset Henry Thel xgrang	35	0	0
Thomas Lewis Peterston gent.	126	0	0

Vaughan Edward Old-Castle	20	0	0
Williams Roger of K nh ly gent.....	206	8	0
RADNOR.			
Crowther Bryant, Knighton	321	0	0
Johns Rich. Treverne, Esq.....	144	0	0
Lloyd Howell, Nantinnell.....	80	0	0
Lloyd Hugh, Guardvanny.....	76	0	0

QUERIES.

RUABON OR RHUABON?—Which is correct?
DNALWOR.

[In any reply to above, perhaps the writer will also take note of another variation in the name—"Rhiwabon."—Ed.]

THOMAS JEAVONS THE ENGRAVER.—It is stated that Jeavons retired to Welshpool, where he lived for many years—died—and was buried there Nov. 26, 1867. Where was he born? J.D.F.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.—Mr. Hulbert, writing in 1835 about Drayton in the county of Salop, says, "The communication by post with Shrewsbury is badly arranged, letters being carried by way of Chester or Birmingham to the county town, and charged eight-pence postage, when the actual distance is only nineteen miles." There were no railways then. What would Mr. H. say if he lived in the present age, and found the mails from Oswestry to Shrewsbury still going by mail cart! How were the postal charges regulated in those days, and what was the tariff? I have been told by some of our elders that the postage of letters between London and Oswestry used to be 10d. Was this rate fixed when the great London and Holyhead Road was made? And what was the rate still earlier? YOUNG OSWESTRY.

MEETINGS OF AID.—Miss Costello, in her book on North Wales published more than thirty years ago, says:—

I do not know whether the ancient meetings, called "Meetings of Aid," formerly usual in *Llangollen*, are now superseded, but it was once the custom here for the benevolent to meet, at certain times, to consult about giving work to the poor. On these occasions it was expected that the women should receive some token from their admirers, indicative of their sentiments. Sometimes offerings were made of silver spoons, cakes and other trifles, decorated with ribbons and flowers; but if a lover wished to hint that he had changed his mind, and no longer cared to continue on terms of intimacy with the female he had chosen, he had only to add a sprig of *collen*, or hazel, and it was at once known that he was not ambitious of the character of a constant swain.

Can any of your readers give us some further information concerning the "Meetings of Aid," and the curious customs alluded to? G.G.

REPLIES.

FRENCH PRISONERS AT MONTGOMERY. (Oct. 2, 1878).—At this date a correspondent quoted the *Gents' Mag.* announcing the death of M. Chatuing, a French officer, who had been four years a prisoner on parole at Montgomery. In a Shrewsbury paper of Sep. 1804 it is stated Government had ordered the French Generals Boyer and Rochambeau to be removed from Ashburton to Montgomery. No reply seems to have been elicited relative to the sojourn of the French prisoners at Montgomery and Llanfyllin. POWYSLANDER.

NEWSPAPERS SEVENTY YEARS AGO (Mar. 19, 1879).—Your correspondent may well remark on the scantiness of home news in local papers seventy years ago. An instance I give herewith is even more remarkable than the one he quotes. In the *Salopian Journal* of Sep.

12, 1804, the following paragraphs appear one after the other:—

On Thursday last a woman in a very disgraceful state of intoxication, fell under the wheels of a waggon near St. Giles's Church, which passing over her neck killed her on the spot.

Same day, a man from the neighbourhood of Shiffnal was committed to our county gaol charged with the wilful murder of his wife.

Here we have a murder dismissed in less space than an accident to a drunken woman, and not even the name of the murderer, murdered, or place where the murder was committed, mentioned! SCROBBES BYRIG.

OSWESTRY CHESS CLUB (Apr. 23, 1879).—The club referred to was fairly floated, I believe, and met in a room at the top of Bailey-street, in a house now or recently occupied by Mrs. Roberts as a Temperance Hotel. The promoters included the late Mr. William Whitridge Roberts (who had not long before started the *Oswestry Advertiser*, in which the advertisement appeared), the late Mr. Leah, of the Grammar Schools, the late Mr. Dicker, surgeon, and Mr. J. W. Davies, sub-registrar of the County Court. How long the club met I cannot say, as I was away from Oswestry for some years about that time; no doubt Mr. Davies, who is the only survivor of the originators, I believe, would be able to tell us all about it. JARCO.

I have accidentally preserved a letter from the late Mr. W. Ormsby Gore (father of Lord Harlech) in reply to one from the Secretary of the newly-formed "Oswestry Chess Club," sent to him asking his countenance to the undertaking. It runs as follows:—

Sir. I have the honour to acknowledge yours. That I should feel an interest in the prosperity of Oswestry is natural from the locality of my residence, although there are those within its walls whose conduct towards me and my interests induces me to question the feeling being reciprocal. I rejoice the Cricket Club has been established on a good foundation: when younger than I am now I originated and supported by constant attendance the prosperity of that healthy and good old English Game, and although I can't attribute the same valuable characteristics to a Chess Club, yet it may, as you say, contribute to the regularity and good conduct of the youth if well conducted—as idleness and want of occupation is the parent of vice; therefore I shall willingly concur in your request, if you think it will in any manner promote its success.—I am, Sir, yours,

W. ORMSBY GORE.
Oct. 24, 1849.

J.W.D.

[Possibly the allusion in Major Ormsby's Gore letter to the "conduct" of sundry Oswestrians in regard to his "interests," refers to politics. As a neighbour he was esteemed quite as highly by the Liberals as by the Conservatives; although it was scarcely to be expected the former would sacrifice their principles even to oblige a highly respected neighbour!—Ed.]

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(April 16, 1879).

GARRENCIERS, DUDLEY, is mentioned as having been born in Cheshire, when his mother was in that county on a visit to some relatives. He received his education at Westminster School and at Cambridge, his name being found there under the year 1669. In 1672 he took his B.A. degree, and in 1676 his M.A., and in 1684 he was made rector of Handley, and became then, or about that time a minor canon at Chester. In 1696 he held the living of Waverton, and was a prebend of Chester. He died 1702.

GATACRE, HUMPHREY, younger son of John Gatacre, of Gatacre Hall, Salop, who was M.P. for Bridgnorth in 1471, is deserving of mention as a person of considerable consequence in his day. He had been well educated in

his boyhood, trained also to the use of arms; and by the favour of King Henry the Sixth had become "an esquire of the body," to that sovereign. His name appears subsequently as of the Shropshire gentlemen who favoured the pretensions of Henry of Richmond to the throne, but there is nothing to show how or why he had engaged himself in his service. He was living in honour when that sovereign died, but did not long survive him, for in the third year of Henry the Eighth, his only son inherited and came into possession of the father's estates.

GEARY, FRANCIS, born at Arcall Magna, near Wellington, Shropshire, in the year 1709, entered the navy as a volunteer in 1727, and for fifteen years he served at sea as a midshipman, and afterwards as a lieutenant. In 1742 he was promoted to be captain of the Squirrel, of twenty guns, and his active life in the service may be said to have commenced at once. The professional account of him from that time to 1759, when he received his commission as Rear Admiral is very interesting, and thenceforth his promotion fell to him in regular gradations, until age told upon his frame, and he was forced to succumb to an enemy against whom the bravest and the best fight in vain. In grateful remembrance of his honourable services, he was created a Baronet in 1782. He died in 1796, aged eighty six.

GEE, THOMAS, born at Hollins, in Cheshire, 1771, is noted as having been trained under the care of the Rev. Mr. Olorenshaw, a pious clergyman in the Establishment. His excellent tutor had hoped to bring him up to his own profession, but under the influence of Mr. Wesley's writings he went over to the Methodists, and in 1798 became one of their ministers. The force of strong conviction constrained him to devote his life to the diffusion of religious knowledge among the sadly-neglected class of his countrymen who had been living without God, or any reasonable hope of salvation. His success was very great, for the simplicity of his style of preaching enabled him to secure the confidence of his hearers; his pure and blameless life was as salt full of savour, and when others failed to touch the hearts of sinful men, he approved both himself and his ministry to them, and through the foolishness of preaching was instrumental in saving many souls. He died at Chester in 1836, aged sixty-five.

GENTLEMAN, ROBERT, a very eminent Nonconformist minister was born at Whitechurch in Salop in the year 1745. He was educated at Daventry, under the Rev. Caleb Ashworth, D.D., and thence proceeded to Shrewsbury, where in 1767, he became the Pastor of the church meeting for worship at Swan Hill Chapel. He removed to Carmarthen in 1779 to undertake the charge of the Dissenting Academy in that town, but upon the failure of his health in 1784 he retired from that arduous post and settled at Kidderminster, as minister of a chapel belonging to the Nonconformists. He died in 1795, in the 50th year of his age. Mr. Gentleman published several works, but his best known as editor of "Job Orton's exposition of the Old Testament in six volumes."

GEORGE, WILLIAM, a native of Llansoi, Monmouthshire, is highly spoken of as a gentleman of ability both as a scholar and a public speaker. He evidently had been ordained as a Dissenting minister, for he served at Llanfaches in that capacity at one time, and was greatly esteemed both there and in other parts of his native county. He removed to Hereford in the year 1799, and remained there for two years, and after that we can trace him no further. "Mr. George wrote several things upon divinity, and some of them were published," is the testimony of one writer, but we have searched in vain for the "printed"

books in question, and even doubt the correctness of this part of the testimony regarding him, although we admit his ability as a divine, and his scholarship also.

GILL, JOHN, born at Weston, near Redcastle, in Shropshire, where his father resided when filling the responsible position of agent to the late Viscount Hill, of Hawkstone. He was educated at Wem Grammar School, and at Bridgnorth, whence he proceeded to the study of medicine, passing through the College of Surgeons, where he carried off the Gold Medal, and obtained his licence to the College of Physicians. He settled at Wem, and soon acquired considerable local fame, but his name will go down to posterity as one of the many heroic medical men who hastened out to Eastern Europe to render all the help they could to the sick and wounded in the Russo-Turkish war. Every medical man is more or less a hero, for in no profession do men run greater risks than in the practice of this beneficent art; but Mr. Gill may fairly be classed among the foremost of his compeers, seeing that he was a volunteer in the great work he had thus undertaken to do. He was attached to the Turkish side, and found himself thrown into a sea of trouble, where death faced him in every horrible form, and where the climate and the want of food combined to magnify tenfold all the evils ordinarily incident to a state of war. How nobly he worked, and how bravely he struggled through the campaign are now matters of history, and however much we may differ in opinion as to the policy of England in this great European emergency, there can be no two opinions upon the gallant and disinterested conduct of the medical men of all nations who risked their own lives to save the lives of others. Mr. Gill's name and fame are deserving of the most honourable mention, and he is therefore entitled to a first place among Salopian Worthies.

GILPIN, JOSHUA ROWLEY, son of the Rev. Joshua Gilpin, of Wrockwardine, Shropshire, was born at his father's parsonage, in the year 1788. Making every allowance for the partiality of his biographer, who in 1803 published a small volume in his memory, entitled "A Monument of Parental Affection to a dear and only son," we cannot but admit that young Gilpin was possessed of rare abilities, and gave promise of a bright and honourable future. He was educated under his father's eye, and was then sent to Oxford, with a view of entering the ministry of the Church of England. His diligence as a student, and constant devotion to his books, affected his health, and in a few short months he fell a victim to the cruel disease which in our uncertain climate is all but fatal, and in the twentieth year of his age he died.

GILPIN, LUKE, born in Shropshire, and educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, 1561-2, was elected fellow of that College, and in 1567 commenced M.A. In 1573 he was presented to the rectory of Bebbington, Cheshire, whereupon arose a suit, the termination of which does not appear. He was proctor of the University, 1574; proceeded B.D., 1576; was collated to the archdeaconry of Derby, 29 July, 1577; and to the prebend of Norwell tertia pars in the Church of Southwell, 19 May, 1581, being admitted on the 28th of that month. His name occurs in a commission for the visitation of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry, 1583. He died about October, 1587. He was author of Latin verses prefixed to J. Barthlet's *Pedegrewe of Heretiques*, 1566.

GLEGG, WILLIAM, grandson to one John Glegg, of Gayton, in Cheshire, is said to have been born at that village in the year 1530, and to have settled in London, "when about twenty-seven year old." He had descended from a genteel family, but was himself in trade, and his

"merchantlike calling" carried him to Flanders, where he soon found it more honourable, if less profitable, to join the army, and to buckle on his armour in search of that fame and distinction which the sword has brought to many a gallant Englishman. The favours of Mars, however, do not always fall to the deserving ones, but suffering and death make up in too many instances the sum of glory which the poor soldier has to be content with. No other man made better battle for his faith than our hero of Gayton. His honour was unsullied, his courage unquestioned, and he strove for the mastery upon the battlefield with that pluck and gallantry which dignified his forefathers. A stray shot wounded him sore; all his plans for fame fell beneath it, and after weeks of quiet endurance under his sad affliction, he died, we are told, "a young man full of honours if not of years, ripe for the glories of heaven, just at the time when he hoped to enjoy those of the earth."

GLODRYDD, ATHELSTAN. We must give this founder of the fifth Royal Tribe of Wales a place among the Borderers, seeing that, according to Mr. Yorke, "his country lay between the Severn and the Wye," and that he derived from Rhiengar, daughter and heiress of Grono ab Tewdur Trevor, and so inherited the Earldom of Hereford. The Saxon King, Athelstan, was his godfather, and by way of good will to him, he marched a strong army against Hereford, and imposed upon the country a yearly tribute of twenty pounds in gold, three hundred pounds in silver, and a fine of two thousand five hundred cattle, with a certain number of hounds and hawks. He was born in 933, and his "Tribe" succeeded after his death. Mr. Yorke accepts that doctrine upon the testimony of Mr. Llwyd, who says, "By Llwyth or tribe is meant the descendants from such a person, and *not the person himself*, so the twelve sons of Jacob are called the twelve tribes of Israel, because from them sprang the twelve tribes of Israel, and our tribes must be considered in the same sense as Moses called the twelve sons of Jacob tribes, because they represented in their posterity the tribes." Glodrydd's country was independent of the Princes of South Wales, and yet it was ever looked upon as a part of Wales. Chester, Shrewsbury, Hereford, and Monmouth, were long esteemed as Welsh capital towns, and are even now looked up to as properly belonging to Welshmen. How far the claim runs into the counties it is hard to tell, but in any case this "regalis" may be looked upon as the great founder of a Cambrian race of nobles, and a great Borderer also, both by blood and inheritance.

GLYWYS AB TEGID. This renowned personage, being both a chieftain and a saint, may fittingly be mentioned among the worthies of Monmouthshire, although we have abstained as a rule from alluding to the ancients who have come down to us "as sons of fathers." Gwynllwg in Monmouthshire was his home and patrimony, and he is said to have "used all the arts of warfare to maintain his rights in the land of his nativity," which must mean, that he knew how to fight, and to fight successfully. On the authority of Mr. Williams's "Cambrian Biography," we note him as a saint, who founded the Church of Machen in Monmouthshire, and gave the name of Glywysseg to a district of that county. He was father to St. Gundelus, one of the "wild Welshmen" probably, who in the fifth century, found how a much better battle could be fought, in the way of peace than upon the old fields of carnal warfare. If he ended his days in holiness as is implied, we may mark him as one of many who in those days helped to civilize their countrymen, a benefactor, therefore, whose name is deserving of honourable mention, and whose bright example as a Christian did far more good service to the nation than all the feats of arms which had distinguished his earlier years.

GOODMAN, RALPH, who filled the office of Sheriff of Chester, in 1529, and Mayor in 1547, was born in that city, his father being Richard Goodman, a person of some eminence there. This gentleman is described as a "Skinner," but in the early times mentioned above members of the very first families were engaged in trade, and often dignified their calling by the honour and good faith with which they conducted all their business transactions. The date of this gentleman's death is not known.

GOODMAN, RICHARD, born at Backford, near Chester, is probably the first person of his name who occupied a place of distinction at Chester. He was a merchant in that city, and, we may assume, wealthy, for in 1492 he was Sheriff, in 1498 Mayor, and again in 1503 re-elected to that office. There is no authentic record of his death, but Mr. Richard Llwyd states that he died before 1510, when a "Cywydd" had been written to his memory.

GOODMAN, WILLIAM, son of the last named, was born at Chester, and succeeded to his father's business. In 1514 he was Sheriff of his native city; and in 1532 Mayor; also in 1536. Dean Cotton had some of this gentleman's "Family Notes" in his possession, and it appeared from them, that the Goodman's of Anglesea, derived from this Cheshire family, but Mr. Archdeacon Newcombe does not accept that fact in terms, but inclines to the same belief, although he gives no authority for this.

GOODMAN, WILLIAM, son of the last-named, and born in Chester, was probably a person of even more consequence than any of the preceding members of his family according to the best authorities we have. His daughter and heiress, Ursu'a, married Sir Thomas Mostyn of Mostyn, a great match for a "merchant's" daughter. Mr. Goodman was sheriff of Chester in 1574, and mayor in 1579.

GRAVENOR, JOHN, born at Eccleston, in Cheshire, in or about 1522, was educated at Eton and elected thence to King's College, Cambridge, whereof he was admitted scholar, 1538, and fellow, 1541. He proceeded B.A., 1542, and gave up his fellowship in 1546. In 1564, he was chaplain to Guest, Bishop of Rochester. He is author of "A British Prophecy of the Sixth Century," from a Register of the church of Rochester, translated out of the Saxon into English—MS. Tanner, 461, f. 47.

GREENLY, ELIZABETH BROWN, only child of William and Elizabeth Greenly, of Titley Court, Hereford, was born there in the year 1771; she married Sir Isaac Coffin, Bart., in 1811, who thereupon took her maiden name by letters patent. Lady Greenly wrote several works under assumed names, and was possessed of wonderful ability, but her humility, sweet disposition, and piety crowned her life and gave to her the kind of influence which enabled her to do much real good to the community where she dwelt. Her father was a fine character, her mother "an Israelite" without guile, and she partook so largely of their good qualities as to make her notable in her day as a friend and adviser to all who were in trouble. She suffered much bodily affliction, and in 1839 died, aged 67. Her excellent mother, who survived her, put up a monument to her memory, on which it is truly stated that "her resignation and cheerfulness under severe and protracted trials attested the firmness of her faith in Him 'who was made perfect through suffering,' and inspired the tenderest affections in those around her, and the deepest sorrow at her loss."

GREENLY, WILLIAM, father of the last mentioned, was born in Herefordshire, in the year 1741, and had descended from a very honourable race who had dwelt at Titley Court in that county for untold generations. His

mother, Elizabeth Williams, of Cwmda, Brecknockshire, died when he was a child, and as her heir he acquired large estates in that county and also in Monmouthshire. He was a scholar of considerable eminence, a rare antiquary, and one of the very best read men in England. Many men of mark courted him, for his goodness and simple manners lent a charm to his character; his tenderness to the poor was proverbial, his piety shone so, that all could appreciate it, and to his household he was both a father and a friend. He died in 1834 at the great age of ninety-three, and over his grave is appropriately printed:—

Friends, o'er this tomb all drop the tender tear,
And mourning, wish his spirit still was here,
Rather your grateful thanks to God be given,
Who spard so long to earth, one ripe for heaven.

GRESWELL, WILLIAM PARR, was born at Chester in the year 1765, being son of the Rev. John Greswell, one of the under masters of the King's School in that city. He was educated on the foundation of the same school, and himself became an undermaster there, being a fair classic, and otherwise well fitted for the position he occupied as such. He was ordained to the curacy of Blackley, near Manchester, in 1789, and he afterwards obtained the incumbency of Denton, where he laboured faithfully for upwards of sixty years. In 1823 he printed, for private distribution, an elegant little work, entitled "The Monastery of St. Werburg," a loving tribute to the remembrance of the spot where he had spent the years of his boyhood. This excellent man died in 1854 at the ripe age of eighty-nine.

GREY, HARRY, was born in, or near to, the city of Chester, in the year 1784, and in 1796, he proceeded to Eton for his education, where he remained for four years, after which he was entered of Brasenose College, Oxford, with a view of entering the Church. He has given us in his autobiography, a somewhat painful insight into the collegiate life of that day, but under the careful teaching of Bishop Cleaver, he managed to become a thoughtful student, and a proficient scholar. In 1807 he was ordained and falling into the companionship of the Hebers and Hills became an evangelical preacher, and a very painstaking and useful clergyman. The story of his life for more than half a century of ministerial labour sufficiently attests his claim to notice. Earnest, kind, pious and truthful, he saw good in everything, and when he died in March, 1860, he passed away to

"A calm and undistracted repose,
Unshaken by the last of foes."

GREY, MARY, daughter of Sir George Cotton of Combermere, in Cheshire, but born, it is said, in Shropshire, and was first married to Edward, Earl of Derby, and afterwards Henry Grey, Earle of Kent. She has the reputation of being learned and clever for her times, a discreet and sensible woman, and "to both her husbands loving and obedient," but her memory will be cherished as that of a true friend to the poor and distressed, and the pious promoter of religion, when most of the high and mighty ladies who surrounded the court held all such qualities cheaply, and unworthy of their regard. She died in 1580, and is buried at Great Gaddesden in the county of Hertford, where her husband put up a monument in her remembrance "in tender affection and good respect" that he entertained for her.

GRIFFITHS, JOHN, son of a very celebrated man of the same name, and grandson of a still more eminent person, Morgan Griffiths, a well known Welsh Nonconformist minister who died in 1738, was born at Pontypool, Monmouthshire, some time before his grandfather's death. His education was of the best, first in his native place, then at Bristol, and lastly in London under Dr. Walker.

His scholarship was so perfect that the Baptists had it in contemplation to place him at the head of one of their theological and classical academies, but he preferred emigrating to America where his father had been settled for some years. What position he occupied in that country is not known, but there are abundant proofs of the respect with which he was treated there "as one of the best scholars ever known" in America. He returned to Monmouthshire in 1777, where he remained till his death in 1791. Whether he had acquired property out in America, or had succeeded to some inheritance belonging to his mother in Monmouthshire, is not clear, but his son came to an estate in that county, and continued to reside upon it far into the present century.

GROSVENOR, ELIZABETH, a native of Cheshire and related to the old Cheshire family of that name, was prioress of the Benedictine Nunnery at Chester in 1537, when it, with other religious houses, were suppressed. When she made a surrender of the house, a pension of twenty pounds per annum was granted to her for her life, and smaller pensions were also granted to the sisters who abode under her charge at the time.

GROSVENOR, JOHN, a Cheshire man of note, who, in 1396, had been engaged in the great battle of Nicopolis, when the Turks and Christians strove for the mastery. He naturally sided with Sigismund, King of Hungary, who made so gallant a stand against the Turkish aggression, and was fortunate enough to pass through the struggle safely. How he spent his life between that time and the year 1411 we know not, but in the latter year he was "constable of Fronsac" and a party to a treaty to transmit "to the city of Chester a great shrine of gold, in which there was a piece of the holy cross on which our Saviour previously underwent his passion. . . that it might be placed in the county of that city. . . and that the good people should have devotion for it, and remembrance of the soul "of one Henry Champaigne, a Burgess of the town of Liboume, who before his death had set his heart upon the transmission of this relic to England. Mr. Hemingway (the historian of Chester) failed to ascertain whether the shrine in question had reached Chester, and he leaves that matter and Constable Grosvenor to the loving remembrance of his readers. In 1420, John Grosvenor, (probably the same person) is again in front of Nicopolis, where a second battle was fought. The relics of Christ's death found some place in the hearts of the English Christians of those times, and we may hope that Christ Himself was "a very present help to them in all their troubles." It is a glad some thing to dwell upon, the sacrifices made by a Cheshire Grosvenor for his faith, and in this particular at least the name of this gallant man must always be remembered by the borderers with affection and reverence.

GROSVENOR, RAUFF, who married Joan Eton, of Eaton, near Chester, was a true descendant of the Grosvenors, who came over to England with the Conqueror, and also a Cheshire knight of some renown, although of small means in land or money. There had settled in the same county others who assumed the name, but who had no right to it, and so late as the time of James the First, one of these gentlemen resided at or near Chester, and claimed descent from Rauff and Joan Grosvenor, but without a title of evidence to support the claim, through marriage or by descent. A very curious document, privately printed in the year 1601, contends that Rauff and Joan Grosvenor had no children, and that some portion of their reality passed to another Cheshire family,

who took up the name of Grosvenor. According to Burke and other accepted authorities that is not so, but the descents given by these writers are faulty in many serious particulars. Raufe and Joan, however, are still called the heads of this family, but upon no good or reliable authority.

GROSVENOR, RICHARD, of Great Budworth in Cheshire, is sometimes mentioned as *the* ancestor of the Cestrian family of that name. He was living in 1269, and a party to a curious deed entered into between the parishioners of Nether-Pever, and the prior of Norton, by which the latter bound himself to find a secular chaplain to officiate at Pever chapel on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Saints' days throughout the year, and to perform other offices of a religious kind "securing to the Mother Church all tythes, both great and small, and the parishioners to find books, vestments, vessels, and other ornaments of the Church at their own costs." Surely this gentleman is very worthy of honourable remembrance, for his care in this one particular of the best interests of the poor neglected people who dwelt near to him. It is not a common occurrence to find men of high estate busying themselves thus in making due provision for the eternal welfare of their neighbours, and binding themselves, as Mr. Grosvenor did, to pay out of his own pocket for the services to be rendered.

GROSVENOR, ROBERT, a younger son of the last named, is the first of his family who appears to have held any office of dignity within his native county. In the year 1284 he was sheriff of Cheshire, and is recorded as "of Hulme in Allestock." He would seem to have held this post for some years, a sure proof of his being not only a man of mark, but also a person of high integrity, for he served under King Edward the First, a sovereign who knew how to choose fitting instruments to do his work, and who was equally ready to reward all his servants who did that work well. This gentleman is supposed to have died in 1292, and it is also supposed that he died childless, but he had brothers, and in 1389 some of their descendants are to be met with at Hulme in Allestock.

GROSVENOR, SIR ROBERT, a Cheshire man, who accompanied Richard the Second, in 1385, when that monarch proceeded against the Scots. He carried a shield (*azure*) with a bend (*or*), but Sir Richard Scrope challenged his right to do so. This led to a long and celebrated trial before commissioners who were appointed to hear evidence and to determine the cause. John de Massey, one of the Grosvenor witnesses, deposed that he had seen the challenged arms upon a Cross at Bradley in Appleton, Cheshire, and that they had been placed there by the Grosvenors more than half a century prior to 1386 (the year in which this trial commenced) which of course proved that Sir Robert was not the first of his family who had borne them. In the result, neither party secured complete satisfaction; nor does this contest, in fact, determine conclusively that the Grosvenors, who now dwell in Cheshire, had lineally descended from Sir Robert Grosvenor, although that honour is claimed for them by many writers.

GRUBB, JOHN, born at Acton Burnel, Salop, in the year 1645, and matriculated at Oxford, in 1667, was the son of John Grubb, "de Acton in consitu Salop Paupires." He took his B.A. degree in 1671, his M.A. in 1675. He was head master of the grammar school at Christ Church for some time, and afterwards settled at Gloucester, where he died in 1697. Mr. Grubb was possessed of considerable abilities, and cut a figure when at Oxford, among the wits and humorous poets of

his day. Bishop Percy has inserted in his *Reliques* a wonderful composition from his pen entitled, "St. George in England," the second part, and he says that a set of gentlemen of the university had formed themselves into a club, all the members of which were to be of the name of George; and that their annual feast was to be held on St. George's day. Mr. Grubb desired greatly to be of their number, but was precluded from doing so because his name was John. The members were doubtless wishful to have him among them, and eventually it was settled that if he would compose a song in honour of their patron saint, and further undertake to add one or more new stanzas to it annually, he should be allowed to join the Club. This condition being accepted, the diverting poem printed by the Bishop was the result of this bargain. It began thus—

The story of King Arthur old
Is very honourable,
The number of his subject knights
And roundness of his table;
The knights around his table in
A circle sate d'ye see,
And altogether made of one
Large troop of chivalry.

GUNDLEUS (SAINT), son of Glywys ab Tegid already mentioned, was at one time lord of Gwentloog in Monmouthshire, being the eldest son of his father. He had six brothers, who paid homage to him as their lord; but we name him particularly as having married Gwladus, granddaughter of Bychan, and father of a large family, most of whom gave up all their worldly possessions and devoted themselves to religion. Mr. Williams says he was called Gwynllynfilwr, indicating how at one time he had been a great warrior. Following the example of his father, he gave up the sword, built the church of St. Woolas in Newport, and passed the latter years of his life "in quiet abstinence and devotion." Cattwg "the wise" was his eldest son, but he was born, it is said, in Wales *proper*; his daughter Maches will be mentioned hereafter, for there is a history connected with her name, which brings, as it were, into one focus, the true lesson we should all learn of how early training in one generation, may lead entire families in a good, useful, and holy direction, and so entitle them to the dignified designation of "households of faith." It is not certain when Gundleus died, nor where he was buried.

GYTTINS, JOHN, son of a gentleman of the same name, was born at Shrewsbury, and in 1490, and again in 1494, he served the office of chief bailiff in his native town. In the latter year (1494-5) King Henry the Seventh visited Shrewsbury, and Mr. Gytins had to attend upon his Majesty as he perambulated the boundaries of the town. The Abbot of Shrewsbury Monastery had claimed some rights, a thing the townsfolk did not relish, and at the fitting moment and place the Bailiff in defence of municipal privileges addressed the king thus: "My Liege Lord, please your grace to understand that here (a spot upon which they then stood) in this place, of the said Staunburgg, where of old season was a cross of stone in the south part, and at this day a great ash growth beside the said burgg on the other side, that is to witt on the north side of the said burgg, is the mere of the franchises of the town of Shrewsbury, towards the Abbey of the same, the which we the said bailiffs been peaceably possessed of; how be it, that the Abbot and convent of the Abbey aforesaid made title and claim unto parcell of our said liberty, upon and by the said Staunburgg." That was a daring speech to make, but it just proves how even then the secular power was fast trenching upon the ecclesiastical one, presaging the great

revolution so soon to follow. This wise king "commended the bailiffs and their successors to keep the same liberty," and so to speak patted the proud Salopians upon the back for their pluck. Honest John Gytins did not live to see the end of the game, but his name must be remembered as a pioneer in it.

POETS OF WALES AND THE BORDERS.

(July 3, Sep. 18, 1878).

An anecdote is traditionally related of David, the last Abbot of Valle Crucis, who found one day the Bard seated in an arbour in the garden of the Abbey, and enquired what he was doing there. "Writing a poem in your honour," was Gutto'r Glyn's reply. "Compose it, then, to the honour, not of me, but of God," rejoined the Abbot. The command was obeyed, and the poem, of which the following is an attempt at translation, was the result :—

I'R ABAD DAFYDD.

*Mae un cyn yma yn cynnal.**

In Yale's a man who never faints
To speed the praises of the Saints,
A Lamb, whose judgment ne'er was wrong;
But when a man constructs a song,
If David's praises be its theme,
To Mary straight he offers them.

Woe's me, if I incur his ire,
For lack of true poetic fire!
Long time had I bestowed my pains,
And tuned my strings to worldly strains;
Six years my verse was given to rail;
Quoth he, "'Tis time to change the tale."
He gives command, nay more, entreats:
"You're old, of satire quit your feats,
Turn now, like Saul, the Saints to praise,
To God, not man, attune your lays.
And be your song—'tho' late 'tis giv'n—
Uplifted to the King of Heav'n."

I'll offer—ere by Death I'm caught—
The longest life is all too short;
To God, at least, with firm good-will,
The tithe of all mine ancient skill.
To Him, in sooth, who owns it most,
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Three, yet but One and only God,
Who hath in Heav'n His bright abode.
Six words express release from doom :—
'God's Son from Blessed Mary's womb.'

God made of old a pair from clay,
O'er all this world, to bear the sway,
Rule field, and wild, with their contents,
And their four primal elements.

God hath pour'd forth, upon the rood,
And by the spear, for us His blood.
For Him let, henceforth, in return,
Our hearts with true affection burn!

That form of Christ, with gore that stream'd,
Those limbs that with wide gashes teem'd,
Shall come for judgment at the last,
And bring dread mem'ries of the past.
The Father's wrath is turn'd, yet three
Thoughts linger still to trouble me.
I know that deep in death I'll lie,
But not the hour when I must die.
Yet, more, 'tis hinder'd me to know
The place where soon I needs must go.

O God! my soul's Physician blest,
Most precious to my wants confest,
By sin's disease o'erwhelm'd I lie,
Repentant make me, then, to die!
On my Creator, in my plight,
I cry with weeping in the night,
Both for my God and Saviour's love,
And fear, for just is God above;
To see the Cross upborne on high,
The Judge for judgment in the sky;
Fear of Heav'n's King, with Angel Host,
Fear by His wounds lest I be lost!
The Doomsday trump I hear with dread,
As tho' it woke me from my bed.
Upon my brow is writ the roll
Of all my deeds, in lengthen'd scroll.

My hope is in the Son,—the price
Of His uplifted Sacrifice.
The Triune God, from out the tomb,
Will hear me, and reverse my doom.
My mighty God, mine only stay.
Will guard me in the judgment day.

My refuge, when mine end shall come,
Be Heav'n, and its eternal Home!

H.W.L.

MAY 28, 1879.

NOTES.

CONCERNING THE KING'S MAJESTIES STILE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

(Sep. 17, Oct. 1, 1873, Mar. 5, May 7, 1879.)

On a previous occasion we promised to give a copy of the declaration whereby James I. assumed the style of King of Great Britain. As our readers will remember, this was suggested to his majesty by a Welshman, Sir Wm. Maurice. The following is a literal copy :—

By the King.

As often as We call to minde the most ioy full and just Recognition made by the whole body of our Realme, in the first Session of our High Court of Parliament, of that blessing which it hath pleased God to reserve many yeeres in his Providence to our Person, and now in the fulnesse of the time of his Disposition, to bestow vpon Us; Namely the blessed Union, or rather Reuniting of these two mightie, famous, and ancient Kingdomes of England and Scotland, under one Imperiall Crowne: So often doe We thinke, that it is our dutie, to doe our vttermost endeavour for the aduancement and perfection of that worke, which is of his beginning, and whereof hee hath giuen so many palpable signes and Arguments, as hee that seeth them not, is blinde, and hee that impugneth them, doeth but endeavour to separate that, which God hath put together. For, to omit those things which are eident to sense, That the Isle Within itselfe hath almost None but imaginarie bounds of separation Without, but one common limit or rather Gard of the Ocean Sea, making the whole a little world within itselfe, the Nations an vniformitie of constitutions both of body and minde, especially in Martiall prowesses, A communitie of Language, the principall meanes of Ciuil societie, An vnitie of Religion, the chieftest band of heartie Union, and the surest Knot of lasting Peace; What can be a more expresse Testimonie of Gods authoritie of this worke, then that two mightie Nations hauing bene euer from their first separation continually in blood each against other, should for so many yeres immediately before our Succession, beat peace together, as it were to this end, That their memory being free from sence of the smart of former injuries, their minds might, in the time of Gods appointment, more willingly come together, That it hath pleased him so to dispose, that this Union is not inforced by Conquest and Violence, nor contracted by doubtful and deceivable points of transaction, but naturally deriued from the Right and Title of the precedent Princes of both Kingdomes, concurring in our Person, alike lineally descended from the blood of both through

* In *Montgomeryshire Collections* for April, 1879.

the Sacred conjunction of Wedlocke, An Union which is the worke of God and Nature, and whereunto the workes of Force or Pollicie cannot attaine: We may add thereunto that which We have receiued from those that be skillfull in the Lawes of this Land, that immediately vpon our Succession, diuers of the ancient Lawes of this Realme are *Ipso facto* expired, As namely, that of Escuage, and of the Naturalization of the Subjects, And that there is a greater affinitie and concurrence betwene most of the ancient Lawes of both Kingdomes, then is to bee found betwene those of any other two Nations, As namely, in states of Inheritance and Freehold, as Fee-simple, Fee-taile, Tenant for Life, by Courtesie, Dower, and such like, In Cases of discent of Inheritance, In Tenures of Lands, as of Knights-service, Socage, Franke Almoigne, Burgage, Villenage, and such like, In Writts and formes of Processe, In cases of Trial by Juries, Grand Juries; And lastly in Officers and Ministers of Justice, As Sheriffs, Coroners, and such like, which We leaue to be further considered by the Commissioners of both Realmes.

All which being matter prepared onely by the Providence of Almighty God, and which by humane Industrie could not have bene so ordered; Wee, and all our Subjects ought first with reuerence to acknowledge his Handie-worke therein, and to give him our most humble thanks for the same, and then to further by our endeouours that, which his Wisdom doth by so many signes point out to be his will: Whereof many particularities depending vpon the determinations of the States and Parliaments of both Realmes, We leaue them there to be discussed, according to the Commissions graunted by the seuerall Actes of both Parliaments. And some other things resting in Our owne Imperiall Power, as the Head of both, We are purposed towards the building of this excellent worke, to doe by Our selfe that, which justly and safely We may by Our absolute power doe. And for a first stone of this worke, whereupon the rest may be Layed, seeing there is vndoubtedly but one Head to both Peoples, which is Our selfe; And that vnfeinedly We haue but one Heart and Minde to communicate equally to both States, as Lines issuing from one Center, Our Justice, Our Favours, and whatsoever else dependeth vpon the Unitie of Our Supreme power over both, (God hauing ministered to Us so just cause to embrace them both with equal and indifferent Loue, in as much as Our Birth, and the first part of Our life hath bene in the one, and the later part thereof is like to be for the most part in the other:) We thinke it vnreasonable, that the thing, which is by the worke of God and Nature so much in effect one, should not be one in name; Unitie in name being so fit a meanes to imprint in the hearts of people, a Character and Memoriall of that Unitie, which ought to be amongst them in deede.

Wherefore Wee haue thought good to discontinue the diuided names of England and Scotland out of our Regall Styll, and doe intend and resolute to take and assume vnto Us in maner and forme hereafter expressed, The Name and Stile of *KING OF GREAT BRITTAINE*, including therein according to the trueth, the whole Island. Wherein no man can imagine us to be led by any Humour of Vaineglorie or Ambition, because We should in that case, rather delight in a long innumeration of many Kingdomes, and Seigniories, (whereof in our Inheritance Wee haue plentie enough, if We thought there were glorie in that Kinde of Stile) but onely that We vse it as a signification of that, which in part is already done, and a significant Prefiguration of that, which is to be done hereafter; Not that We couet any new affected Name deuised at Our pleasure, but out of vndoubted Knowledge doe vse the true and ancient Name, which God and Time haue imposed vpon this Isle, extant, and receiued in Histories, in all Mappes and Cartes, wherein this Isle is described, and in ordinarie Letters to Our selfe from diuers Foraine Princes, warranted also by Authentickall Charters, Exemptions vnder Seales, and other Records of Great Antiquitie, giving Us precedent for our doing, not borrowed out of Foraine Nations, but from the Actes of our Progenitors, Kings of this Realme of England, both before and since the Conquest, hauing not had so just and great cause as We haue.

Vpon which Considerations Wee doe by these presents, by force of Our Kingly Power and Prerogative, assume to Our selfe by the cleernesse of our Right, The Name and Stile of *KING OF GREAT BRITTAINE, FRANCE, AND IRELAND, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, &c.* as followeth in Our just and lawfull Stile, and doe hereby publish, promulge, and declare the same, to the ende that in all Proclamations, Missiues, forreine, and Domestickall, Treaties, Leagues, Dedicatories, Impressions, and in all other Cases of like nature, the same may be used and obserued. And to the ende the same may be the sooner

and more vniuersally diulged both at Home and abroad: Our will and pleasure is, that the same Stile be from henceforth vsed vpon all Inscriptions vpon our current Moneys and Coynewes of Gold and Siluer hereafter to be Minted. And for that Wee doe not Innouate or assume to Us any new thing, but declare that which is and hath bene euident to all; Our Will and pleasure is, That in such Appellations or Nominations, as shall be hereafter made by force of these presents, the same shall bee expressed in such and the same maner and forme, and after such Computation, as if We had assumed and declared the same the first day of Our Rayne of our Realme of England; Forbearing onely for the present that any thing herein contained doe extend to any Legall proceeding, Instrument, or Assurance, vntill further Order be taken in that behalfe.

Given at our Pallace of Westminster the twentieth day of October, in the second yeere of our Rayne of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the eight and thirtieth.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majestie. Anno Dom. 1604.

This Proclamation, supposed to be unique, was tied up with Hengwrt MS. No. 445. It is Printed in Old English Text, with Royal Arms at top, in large folio, three pages, on one side the paper only. Ed.

QUERIES.

YORKE'S ROYAL TRIBES OF WALES.—

I have been told two things about this book that I should like further information about. First, that it was written by the Rev. Walter Davies (Gwallter Mechain), and secondly that the so-called portrait of Sir William Williams, the Speaker, it contains, is, in reality, that of a member of the Grosvenor family. N.W.S.

BABBINS WOOD.—Can any of your readers give the origin of this name, which, for the benefit of those at a distance, I may say is that of a coppice belonging to the Aston estate, and situated not far from Whittington, Oswestry. In a deed dated 1576 I have seen it written "Babbis alias Babinch," and in one of the time of Charles I., "Babys alias Babynch" Wood. The common pronunciation in the immediate district, at the present time, is "Babby's 'ood," which is not unlike the "Babbis" of three centuries ago. JARCO.

REPLIES.

BAILIFFS OF WEM (May 7, 1879).—There was a small scale of fees attached to the office of Bailiff, but it did not amount to the cost of the "roast beef and ale" given by them to the burgesses. They had "a shilling for giving possession of borough-hold, which of late"—Mr. Garbett, whom I am quoting, wrote early in the second half of the eighteenth century—"seldom or never happens. They had twopence from each maltster, aleseller, and dealer in grocery, for examining their measures and weights, and a penny of every stranger that pitches a standing, or hawks, or sells anything in the streets." At first "the number of *Burgesses* was above eighty, but now they are only seventy-two, which difference is occasioned by several burgages becoming the property of one person." About a quarter of an acre of land was assigned to each burgess, and the rent reserved to the lord was a shilling, which in those days was, of course, equivalent to a much larger sum now. They were the class from which Bailiffs were drawn, and were also "subject to carrying an halbert, or procuring a man to do it, at the proclamation of fairs, &c." This indicated that they were the body-guard of the lord, and defenders of the town. They were also exempt from sundry tolls, and at one time had "free common of pasture for all their commonable cattle in the lord's woods, and Wem Pools," but the felling of the trees and draining of the pools lost them these rights. A good

parochial history of Wem is greatly needed. Mr. Garbett's labours only come down to the middle of last century, and I am not aware that we have anything of value of a more recent date. Is there no one able, and willing, to accomplish the task for the journal of the "Shropshire Archaeological Society"?

SCROBBES BYRIG.

THE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS OF 1804 (Feb. 5, 1879).—*Whitchurch Volunteers at Oswestry.* On Tuesday, June 5, 1804, the Whitchurch Volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. John Knight, on permanent duty at Oswestry, were inspected by Lieut. Col. Chaytor. Previous to their leaving Oswestry the Mayor presented the following resolutions to Lieut. Col. Knight :—

TOWN OF OSWESTRY. At a House Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councilmen of the Town of Oswestry, held in the Guildhall, the 5th day of June, 1804.

It was unanimously resolved :—

That, impressed with a high sense of the regular and soldier-like conduct of the corps of Whitchurch Volunteers, under the command of Lieut. Col. Knight, during their residence in this town on permanent duty; this House shall signify their approbation thereof, and request the colonel to communicate the same to the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the corps.

That Mr. Mayor be requested to present this resolution to the colonel on parade to-day.

LEWIS JONES, Town Clerk.

Who "Mr. Mayor" was we are not informed in the published record, nor was it necessary for the purpose in view. It was of course the office and not the man who accidentally filled it, that gave weight to the resolution. A similar compliment was paid to the Chester Companies, who were at Oswestry on permanent duty a few weeks later.

JARCO.

FROM OLD WELSH ALMANACKS.

(Nov. 27, 1878.)

(THOMAS JONES'S ALMANACK for 1712 or 1713.)

Cywydd i'r arian.

Yn rhoi byr gyfri or daioni, a'r drygioni a bair arian, arian ettyb i bob Peth medd Solomon, gwreiddin pob drwg iw arian-garwch medd St. Paul i Tim. 6. 10. Preg. 10. 19.

TReuthaf, egoraf ar gân,
Araith wir; oddiwrth arian,
I ni mae daioni maith,
A drygioni draw ganwaith,
Sal i ddyn medd sele ddoeth;
A gofid iw ei gyfoeth,
(Neu) arian, hedan ar hynt,
Anwadal i ni ydynt;
Attebant etto obeth,
A beiau pawb i bob peth;
Crowsio gwyd, nid croeso'gwan,
A gwyr mawr geir am arian;
Ac Aeres lân yn gariad,
Ai thir, a bendith ei thad:
A bendith ei mam yn ddiammeu
I ddyn, a chymmod y ddau;
Ac am arian gymeriad
I'r sala neu waela'n y wlad;
Arian a wna eurych,
(Neu) aer go wael yn wr gwyd;
Moelyn a geiff am olud,
Wallt melyn clir, hir ei hyd:
Y mantach yma ynteu,
A gaiff ddanedd clirwedd clau:
Yn wyrddew, a haner ddall,
Lygad gwydur pur heb pall;

Ag arian sydd yn gyrry,
Mab or wlad, ai dad oi dy;
Am aur (neu) arian maith,
I'w deilad cyrchid eilwaith;
Cyfraith ac anghyfraith hir,
Am arian yr ymeirir:
Iawn yn gam am ddegymөөдд,
A'r cam yn iawn er cynin oedd;
Swglo arian siwgleriaeth,
Yno i'r gwr a wna'r gwaith:
Ceir swyddwyr, a milwyr mân,
A morwyr ymma am arian,
Morynion a gweision gant,
Da mwynion os dymunant:
Deufâth o fara di fai,
Cwrw a bir, a thir, a thai.
A gwyd bysyrwriaeth a gaid,
At arian daw Doctoriaid:
Gwchion ddillad, ac iechyd,
A march, a mawr barch yn y byd.
Wedi marw, ceid am arian,
Arch gostys olygus lân:
Arianog yn wirionedd
A geiff faen i gohffau ei fêdd,
Am arian ceir néf hefyd
O choelir rhai, er bai yn y byd.
Gwiliwch eu hofer goelion,
Ffydd erchyll ry hyll iw hon,
Ystyriwn ni'r ystori a wnân,
Y barieth a bair arian,
A'i gwir mae ariangarwch,
Yw gwreiddin gwg pob drwg drwch,
A da arian yu dyrrau,
'Wna falchder ac uchder gau;
Y balchder, ac uchder heb gél,
Oer ofid a wna ryfel;
A rhyfel croes i'n hoes ni,
Hyd wledydd 'wnae dyledi,
A thylodi 'wnaeth wledydd,
Yn ein bro heno yn brydd;
Llawer gwr os lloeger wyd,
A gwagedd glân a grogwyd;
Er arian curir eraill,
llogir a lleddir y lleill,
Ac arian wrth eu gwario,
'wnaeth siwr lawer gwr oi gô.
Dyrus i'w'r peth a deurid,
Am wyr Llên, mawr yw'r lliid;
Etto gobeithio nad gwr,
yw'r ddadl fawr a ddywdir.
Am arian meddan i mi,
Acow i rantio ceir rhenti.
Rhôst a berw, a chwrrw haidd,
Sy am enw Simonaidd;
Er llawnder a brasler brâd,
Y lladron a'u cig lledrad;
Diofal petteu ond dwy faip,
A mwyn y cwsg pottes maip;
Am arian rhoi cusan câs,
yn ei swydd a wnae suddas;
Dywyll fôdd y dwyll a fu,
Gwarth oesoedd, gwerthu Jesu;
A rhai (am arian) yn rhwydd;
Ai gwiliâu 'ddywedent gelwydd;
Dyfaïs Iddewon difwyn,
Ro'i'r lôn iw ddynion ei ddwyn;
Ow gwelwn na thâl golud,
Reiol fawr yn yr ail fyd:
Arian da ni wna i neb
Byw yno dderbyn wyneb,

O'r gyfraith yn y faith farn,
 Ni meiria un am arien ;
 Rhoddwn a rhannwn wrth raid,
 Lusen i ar lës enaid :
 Da reswm casglwn drysor,
 Yn y Nef gyda ein Ior ;
 lle nid oes Rhwd, ffrawd, na phry
 Hyll eger 'eill eu llygru ;
 Na lladron i'n tralloddi,
 Yno 'ddwyn ein eiddo ni :
 Trysor a dâ sy ymma Sâl,
 Enwedig yn anwadal ;
 A'r duwiol drysor dilyth,
 Yno i ni a beru byth.

E. E. Gweinidog Eglwys
 Rhôs a Llan didno a'u cant.

JUNE 4, 1879.

NOTES.

CARNARVONSHIRE COUNTY ELECTION
 IN 1768.—Mr. Breese, in his *Kalendars of Gwynedd*, gives "Thomas Wynn, Esq." as returned Knight of the Shire on the 30 March 1768. By the following address it would appear that there was a contest :—

To the Gentlemen, Clergy and Freeholders of the County of Carnarvon.

The strenuous and ready support I have met with from my friends, demands my most early and grateful Thanks. As I have not the honour to serve you in public, permit me to offer my friendship to you, as a private man ; it is all I have to offer ; and, to a generous and independent county, I flatter myself it will be sufficient.

Had my declaration been more early, success might have been more complete : The fault was my own ; and I trust my friends can forgive when the acknowledgment comes warm from the heart.

I am, with most sincere respect, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,
 WERN, April 2, 1768. WILLIAM WYNNE.

A.R.P.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Apr. 23, 1879).

ELECTION OF BURGESSES.

Apud Oswestre xi^o die Aprilis
 Ao. R.R. Elizth xxxj^o. 1569.

These p'rsns were the daye and yere aforesaid elected chosen & sworne Burgesses in the com'on hall by and before the steward Bayliffs and whole consent of the Burgesses Rondle Lloyd and Richard ap I'yn ap m'red gent then beinge Bayliffs if my lord doe allowe of them.

Evan m'redd gent.
 Andrew Ellyce gent.
 John Jones gent.
 Richard Dryhurst
 Thomas Cowp'r.

Ag'd. vij^o Januarij 1586. Thom's Wicherley of Aston & his children begotten and to be begotten/ was maid burgess of oswestree/ And the said Thom's wicherley did the said daye reseve his burgens othe/ and pay for his burgenship accordingly. Roger Akinton was made burgens the saied Daye for the like.

Th: Evance } then
 Edd Edwards } bailiffs
 Hugh Yale.

Md. the xxxth day of January 1592 that we Gruff Kyffin & Thom's Cowp'r gent. nowe bailiffs of the towne of Oswestree have together w'th the consent of Rog'r lloid John

Edwards Richard Staney Willm Gough Rob't Edwards gentlemen & the others of the Co'en counsell & burgess of the said towne R'sd the keis of the towne chest cofer were deliv'ed us the box w'th the newe Charter / ye boxes w'th other writings & ye towne books & one Rowll of paper belonging to the said towne & also the co'en towne seale / one great chayne of Iron, a pr. of small shackles, and bolt w'th ye fetters belonging to the saide boultte, one other pr of shackles & ye other bowltis w'th three fetters, halfe an elne standard yarde, ijo Iron Seales.

Rich : Lloyd :
 John Edwards
 Wyly'm Goughe.

Md. the xxth day of maye 1592 Owen Davies m'r of Arts and headd scholem'r of Oswestree and his children to be begotten were made Burgense of Oswestree and the said Owen Davies did the said daye receive his Burgess's oth/ Gratis bestowed.

John Gruffith corvis'r was made Burgess the said daye for the som of fyve pounds w'ch is paed to Mr. Bailiff hanm'r

David Hanmer } Bailiffs of
 Robert Edwardes } Oswestree

6 octob'r 1592

M'd that Roger ap Hugh was made & elected Burgess the day & yere aforesaid & his children begotten & to be begotten and the said Roger did the said d'ye receive his burgesse othe & paid for his burgensh'pp accordingly.

M'd. that Arthur Lucas was y't day made & elected he & his children, Burgens & received his corp'rate oth & p'd for yt accordingly as the form'r pers'n.

Md. that Roger Meredith of wolton in the countie of Salop tanner was elected Burgesse the xxth daie of April 1599 & his children lawfully begotten & to be begotten & did the same day receive his burgesse o ath & paid for his Burgeshipp accordingly in the Burgess hall.

Gryffth Kyffin } Bailiffs.
 Thomas Staney }

QUERIES.

HISTORY OF THE CHARTISTS.—*History of the Chartists, and the Bloodless Wars of Montgomeryshire.* Entered at Stationer's Hall. Welsh-pool: printed for the Author by S. Salter. Price One Shilling. Such is the title of a small pamphlet about six inches long, four inches wide, of 32 p.p., written in the Hudibrastic style. Who was its author? Did he write anything else?

GOGLEDD.

BRYNHAVOD LANE, OSWESTRY.—A correspondent (writing on August 1, 1877) asks what the old name of this lane was before Brynhavod was built. I never saw it in print, but as boys we called it "Llw [Llwyn] y Rhilane," or something like it. Perhaps some contributor will give the correct spelling, and the meaning?

FAR AWAY.

REPLIES.

RIDING THE STANG (Apr. 9, 1879).—Your correspondents have none of them alluded to the fact that the "Stang" of the English counties was a near relative of the "Ceffyl Pren" of Wales. Those who possess the reprint of *Bye-gones* for 1872, will find on page 84 some account of the latter at Llanfyllin.

TAFFY.

GEORGE MEARES, ESQ. (May 14, 1879).—"H.B." will find an account of this gentleman in *Mont Coll*: vol. vii. 47. He was Mayor of Llanidloes in 1791; by his public energy and activity became a man of great influence in the neighbourhood; was appointed a county magistrate, and served the office of Sheriff for the county in 1812, and on passing of the Reform Bill of 1832, was named with six other gentlemen by an eminent writer in the *Camb. Quar. Mag.* (vol v. p. 6), as fully qualified to discharge the duty of representing the newly enfranchised boroughs of Montgomeryshire in the House of Commons. Much more might easily be added to show that Mr. Meares was fully deserving of the estimation and respect of those who subscribed to the fund for the presentation of the piece of plate alluded to by Mr. Hulbert. H.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (May 14, 1879).—In 1792 Mr. Thomas Pennant, the author of the *Tour in Wales*, addressed a letter on the subject of Mail Coaches to a Member of Parliament. His grievance was not only the injustice done to poor parishes by the exemption of these from tolls, but the brutal conduct of their guards and drivers. On the first head he says—

The most second-sighted of your house could never have foreseen that the usage of the single horse and post-boy, afterwards in many parts converted into the light mail cart drawn by one horse, would be superseded by a royal carriage drawn by four horses, and filled by passengers, who before rode in the common stages, and contributed to support the road's they passed over. This unfortunate change proceeded from an extent of prerogative, repined at only when perverted to the injury of the subject, as this most incontestably must be allowed to have done. Under the sanction of the first Act [passed in the reign of William and Mary] turnpike gates were erected, and immense sums of money lent on the national faith. For a long time the security was esteemed good, and in *Wales*, where five per cent. was given, people at first were happy to place their money on mortgages they imagined so safe. The transfer was then easy, and the public rested perfectly content. The commissioners did their duty fully: they laid out the money to the best advantage, nor did they desist till the lowering of the tolls, by the fatal change of the mode of conveyance, had taken place.

By the repeated renewal of the Act, especially when "oppressively confirmed by that of the 25th George the Third," Mr. Pennant shows how disastrously it worked in Flintshire. In a road he instances, before the four-horse mails were run, they had two stage coaches, from which the district received £40 a year. The royal mails knocked these stages off the road, and with their discontinuance a suppression of income. The roads seem to have done well enough, not only for the use of the farmers and the carriers, but also for the luxury of carriages. But—

In the year 1739, a person was sent from the general post-office to survey the roads. From his report, and by the order of the Post-office, indictments were preferred at the great sessions at Mold, against the whole extent of road in the narrow but long county of Flint. . . . Fines to the amount of £1,200 were imposed on the several townships, many of which were very small, and the inhabitants composed of small farmers, and laborers, poor and distressed to the highest degree.

Mr. Pennant goes on to give instances of the hardship this entailed. In some of the districts the labourers were few and the teams miserable, and in one there was "only a single farmer living in it, who performed a duty of twenty-eight days." The "expenses which the commissioners had been at in the repairs of the roads had almost exhausted the credit; so that at present £50 cannot be obtained for £400 worth of our parchment securities." Mr. Pennant had previously addressed a circular to the several grand juries of England and Wales, in most cases without success, which he attributes "either from ignorance of, or indifference to, the first principles of security of property." In this circular he pointed out the dis-

tresses of the poor in thinly populated districts like Wales; where the mails supplanted the old stages; but the only grand jurors that united in support of his design—which was, as far as I can gather, that the mails exempt from tolls should again be carried in carts—were those of Cheshire, Berkshire, Monmouthshire, and North Wales. His grievance about the conduct of guards and coachmen I will give another week. N.W.S.

JUNE 11, 1879.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.—*Greswell*. We have forwarded the letter received from "J. T." to Mr. Salisbury. Of course, in the many hundreds of Border Counties' Worthies the author has, and still is publishing in our columns, the notices must necessarily be very brief. Upon the completion of the second series, now appearing in our columns, the "Worthies" will be published in a complete volume: but the edition will be limited. The first series (that appeared in the *Oswestry Advertiser* in 1876-7) may be consulted in the Museum Library, at Shrewsbury, or at the Powysland Club Library at Welshpool.

NOTES.

SIR WILLIAM MAURICE OF CLENENNEY.

(May 7, 1879.)

The following letter from Mrs. (Ann Wynn) Brynkir to her brother, Sir William Maurice, was (as far as I can make out from the endorsement in Sir W. Maurice's hand) written in 1605, probably the end of that year, or beginning of 1605-6, in which year Sir William was sheriff for Merionethshire. It is transcribed from the original at Brogyntyn.

"good worshipping brother I hartly comend me vnto you. I thanke god for yo'r good health and I praye to god neight and daye long to continywe it so./- for the money from John gruffith I cane gett non as yeat, but he hath promis me that he will gett them shortly. I tould him if he would not get then out of hand he should haue no bargin of you, and if I can have them of him god willing I will send them w'th the next carier that comes downe to London. It doth greatlye grive my hartt becose you do stand in so much neade of money, and that you would showe yo'r mind vnto Moris ap John ap Moris knowing he is a backe frind vnto us all, and you were never the neare for to haue this money for him. I would nott for aney thing that you had sentt Moris ap John ap moris to William Lewis annwill (1) abavtt erwe syran—he answered him and saied, that [he] would geve no money to redime it. he takes [talks] that the right is in himself, for that bargin, for he doth goe to Lowe [law] with his mother in lawe for hit— therfor good brother doe what maye be done for to geat the money to hieere of S'r Thomas mydelton or of aney other, and you shall have as much of brynkir landes but the housse it selfe as will save you harmles— my husband Mr. Robert wyne (2) gave me leave and to Ellis brynkir, to set hit to whom I would for to gett the money and he will goe to Roger ap hughe for a while or sum whier eles. I hard sed that a complaint was maied agent you for hiring [hearing] a masse, but the lord be thanked, all the worldell knowe that you lovid the Kinge beter nor aney of them all, excepte the pryve Counsell. I do prae neyght and daye for his grace, and w'th you luk-wis, that you do both speake and doe whatt pleaseth his grace, and I doe hartly besече you to take care of yo'r

(1) Of Park, Co. Merioneth, esquire.

(2) Robert Wynn Brynkir, Esq.

shelffe, and that you doe nott take greatt matters so light as you will take smole matters. It is reported in the cuntrey w'th vs thatt you are shiriffe in Myrieth shire and Cunstabell of harlech, and if it be true, I prairie you remember for the bayliffe for me, and if you can gett no money theare I prairie you send me word when you come home and I will mette you at oswestrey for to locke [look] wheather my sonne in lawe Rogge [ap] hughe cane gett aney money ther for to ofer that daie to passe the danger of the daie, for it is reported that they will receive none of the money if it wer redey

"Elies brynkir and my doughter margrett doth mean to goe to fernill, and I hard somatt w'ch I doe nott lieke of. I would have them for to staye at home vntill yo'r cominge— shee doth greatlye want a cloke and savergatt— shee cane nott ride aney wher before shee have— and a hatte.

"I prairie you make good spead to come hame, as you cane, for you shall shee that the soner the beter you cene— comend me to my antt, Mrs. Ellis, and my nice ane, and to Mr. seyers. yo'r obe'n'tt sister,

"ANNE WINE BRINKYR."

This is addressed "To the right wor' my verry louing brother S'r William maurice Knight att the signe off the whit vnicorne in pater noster rowe these be d'd." W.

QUERIES.

WEM FREE SCHOOL.—In October 1804, this school was advertised to "open in the month of January, 1805," and the Rev. H. Johnson, in making the announcement, stated that he was in want of "an Usher, to teach Latin, Writing, and Arithmetic," at a salary of £70 a year. Had the school been closed for any length of time? In the previous February an advertisement appeared in the Shrewsbury papers, announcing a meeting of the trustees of the school to appoint a head master, who was to have "at least a £100 a year, a house rent free and be allowed to take boarders." Application was to be made to Mr. John Walford. Who was the head-master previous to this advertisement? I find in a paper for Mar. 14, 1804, "the Rev. R. Walker, Wem, who has been accustomed to a school above forty years," recommending his to the notice of parents, as having "a warm, comfortable School-room, and a convenient Play-ground at a distance from the Rabble of the Town."

SCROBBES BYRIG.

BELL-RINGING AT HOLYWELL. — Warner gives a curious custom of Holywell, in the way in which people were summoned to church. He says, "The edifice is so situated that when the wind blows from the south or the south-west, the bell cannot be heard in most parts of the town. The parishioners, therefore allow an annual stipend to a poor man to notify the hour of prayer on Sundays and Holidays, which he does in the following singular manner. A leathern strap is suspended round his neck, and a large and heavy bell attached to it, which rests upon a cushion buckled over his knee. Thus accoutred, he traverses the town, jingling his bell, to the surprise of those who are unacquainted with the custom. A ridiculous circumstance happened in consequence of this practice a short time since. An honest Hibernian, who, in passing through Holywell, sojourned there a day to see the curiosities, was standing at the door of the inn when this ecclesiastical bell-man paraded the streets in the exercise of his office; the traveller, astonished at the sight, enquired of a fellow standing by, who had more shrewdness than good-nature, the cause of it, and received for answer that it was to announce the arrival of an oyster-

boat at the well." Whereupon, we are told, the Irishman went to the well to purchase, and was told that boats did not usually travel a mile inland! By the way, when was this bell-ringing custom abandoned? I presume it is not still in vogue? G.G.

REPLIES.

FRENCH PRISONERS AT LLANFYLLIN. (Oct. 30, 1878, May 21, 1879).—Perhaps no reply has been given to the query about the French Prisoners at Llanfyllin, which appeared in *Bye-gones*, Oct 30, 1878, because there are no floating stories connected with their sojourn current in the borough. The rector, the Rev. R. Williams, in his interesting paper in the third vol. of *Mont: Coll:* says (p 54)

Where Bachie Place now stands . . . was used as barracks for the French prisoners during 1812-14. About one hundred and twenty of them—French and German (officers chiefly) were there on parole during that time; they had the liberty of walking a mile, each way out of the town, along the main roads to Pwint, Ysgyborlwyd, Garthgell, and Pentrellymru. They were liberally supplied with money, and did some good to the financial condition of the town by spending it freely; the parish register, however, tells a different tale as to the moral effects of their sojourn here. No incident deserving of note has been handed down, except an attachment between one of the prisoners, a Captain Angereau, and the rector's daughter, which resulted in their marriage after the peace.

If, as the rector intimates, there were rank and file as well as officers captives at Llanfyllin, then it may be presumed that they were literally "prisoners" in the temporary "barracks," for it was only usual, I believe, to allow officers to be on parole. And if the latter were "liberally supplied with money" they were more fortunate than at other places. French officers, as we know, often rise from the ranks, and have only their pay to depend upon; and in Oswestry, for instance, the poorer of them were assisted by one or two of a superior grade, who were gentlemen by birth. N.W.S.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER IN THE WELSH LANGUAGE.

(May 21, 1879).

I am desirous of adding a word or two, by way of correction, to my note on "The First Newspaper in the Welsh Language." By an oversight, the number of the *weekly* issues of *Seren Gomer* is there given as *ninety-five* instead of *eighty-five*. Taking the number at this lower figure, we must still allow some slight irregularity in the weekly publication, for otherwise more numbers would have appeared during the period assigned to it as a weekly journal. In the *Life of Joseph Harris*, by D. Rhys Stephen (Llanelli, 1839), it is stated that with No. 81, issued on the 12th July, 1815, the editor announced to the subscribers that it was the intention of the proprietors to publish only *four* more numbers of the paper, and, as the last number is said to have appeared on the 9th of September following, these four numbers seem to have been *fortnightly* (and not weekly) issues.

The first number of *Seren Gomer* as a *Monthly Magazine* appeared on the first of January, 1818, exactly four years after the commencement of the weekly sheet. So far as I am aware, the *Seren* was discontinued from September, 1815, to January, 1818; but during that interval, namely, in January, 1817, there appeared, under the same indefatigable editorship, the first number of *Greal y Bedyddwyn*, which was intended to be a monthly publication, but for want of support no other number was ever published.

If the eisteddfodau, which squander annually a considerable sum of money, often on questionable subjects,

were to offer a fair prize for the best account or history of Welsh periodical literature from the earliest date to the present time they would do good service to the cause which they profess to have at heart; but I fear the suggestion is too good to be acted upon by the patriots who manage these national gatherings.

Joseph Harris is justly entitled to be considered the father of the Welsh newspaper press; and his memory ought to be revered by every true Welshman.

Since my last communication on this subject, I have discovered that the date assigned in the *Brython* to *Yr Oes* is erroneous, and that my own reading of that date tended to make that mistake still worse. *Yr Oes* commenced its short career, not in 1823, but in March, 1853, and ended it with the sixth number in August of the same year. *Cronicl yr Oes* was therefore the second, not the third Welsh newspaper. I have lately had the opportunity of inspecting *Yr Oes*, which was issued monthly at Aberystwyth during the period alluded to; but there was an earlier *Oes*, a little monthly magazine (not a newspaper), published at Swansea in 1826, which about the beginning of the following year became *Lleuad yr Oes*, and was published under that name at Aberystwyth. This fact will, at least to some extent, explain the error which I have pointed out, and which I am anxious to correct before it spreads any further. It is, I think, a pity that a new journal should assume an older name, and by that means help to lead to confusion.

D.S.E.

FROM OLD WELSH ALMANACKS.

(May 28, 1879.)

(JOHN RHYDDERCH'S ALMANAC for the year 1729.)

CYWYDD i Erfyn cael y Grammadeg Cymraeg sy'n Argraphedig gan Sion Rhydderch; Ac a ellir ei Draethu wyneb yngwrthwyneb.

DYma fôdd, diaman Fyd,
Dâ wiwfodd, o dw hefyd.

Da Addewyd, diddiwedd,

Da yw ei gyd, di-wg wedd,

Diau gwnn, da yw y Gwaith,

Dymunwn, y da mwynwaith,

Dysg helaeth, da os gwiliwn,

Diau Maeth, da mi a wn.

Diddan Lyfr, duedd iawnlês,

Da Eirlyfr, o dw îrlês.

Dewr Aer Iaith, da Eiriau 'rydd,

Dilediaith, Adeiladydd.

Dere yn fwyn, dirion fael,

Diau gwiwfwyn, deg afael.

Drwy ddau beth, draw eiddo bod.

Da wiw ddfeth dy ddyfod.

Drwy Dduw'n bur, dra ddiwan ben,

Dwys eglur, di ysiglea.

Drwy Ewyllys, drwy allu,

Daw hwn i Lys di hên Lu,

O Law un Gwr, a'i lwyn gu,

Ceir Addysgwr, Cerdd ddwysgu.

Mâth ar ddysg, mwythwr a ddaw,

Mwyn Addysg, maen ei ddaw.

I *Frydain*, wiw Frô Odiaeth,

Dôn ddâ gain, daw yn ddi gaeth.

Llwybr diddan, lle' Brydyddu:

Rheolau Cân, rhyw Elw cu.

Pinacl Aur, pen yw y Clo;

Pen rhuddaur, pan y rhoddo.

Sion Rhydderch, seiniwr rhwyddiaith,

Hwn o serch, a'i hynaws waith,

Da iawn yw cael, doniau Cân:

I fewn gafael, fwyn gyfan,

Cael i foddio, Celfyddyd,

Ddysg i'r Frô, ddwys gywir fryd.

Dwys o Golofn, disgwylir,

Fwynedd dofn, i Fynydd-dir.

Lle mae Rhew, llwm oer hin,

Dig Oerew, i Dai gwerin.

Ag Eira blin, garwa blâs,

Dw gerwin, a dig oeriâs:

Gwedi rhyngu, Gwaed 'rhëniaith:

Hon un fu, a'i Henw yn faith.

Parchedig, pur wych odiaeth:

Euraidd Frig, iredd fawr aeth.

Gan Niwlen, du anaelaf,

I'r llawr hên, er llawer Hâf.

Darfu'n siwr, derfynu Sail,

Nid oes Awdwr, dwys Adail.

Nag un eill gwn, gynnull Gerdd,

Gan na ddysgwn, gain ddwysgerdd.

Heb Reol, hybu'r Awen,

Swnio ffôl, sy'n ei phen.

Beth am ddydd, bu iaith ym dda,

Gorau Crefydd, gwyr cryfa.

Ymhrydain, am yr Hoedel,

Canu'n gain, cê union gêl.

Athrawiaeth, Iaith oreuwedd,

Euraid faeth, a reed i Fedd.

Agos i gyd, i gwys gam,

Dywodlyd, a diadlam.

Ac er myned, gwyr mwyniaith,

Ar eu lled, i oer a llaith.

Y mae Gobaith, mwy gwiwber,

Y Dawns Iaith, o dan y ser.

Hwy adawsant, hyd Oesoedd,

Eiriau i Blant, oer eu bloedd.

Ni adawsant Nod isel,

Ddisgybl o gant, ddwys gwbl gwel.

Eu Geiriau hwy, gorau hawl,

A oedd Adwy, wiw ddiadawl.

Au ffordd glir, hoff euraidd glod,

Ddiau henwir, dda hynod.

Oedd i roddi, wedd Kaddol;

Ddysg i ni, ddwys gu yn ol,

Ni gollodd, yn y gallu,

Ag iawn fodd, i gan y fu,

Aeth y Gerdd a'i Hiaith i goll,

Gu fawr gerdd, ar gyfyrgoll.

Collodd eu Braint, call wedd bryd,

Oedd hoywfraint, wedd hyfryd.

Ar hyn gwn, er hwno Gwyr,

Dwys honnyn, da ei synwyr.

Mae etto ral, mwy taer wedd,

A gychwynai, gwych *Wynedd*.

Deheubarth, dae i hybu,

Fil o'i barth, e fel y bu.

Ceir eu clywed, Cor claeare,

Cwyn wiw ged, o'u Canu gwar,

Codi y wnaen, cyd an iaith,

Ar sylfaen, Eiriau sailfaith.

A chynnyddu, wych Naddiad,

Draw wnae llu, drwy hyn wellad,

Mynd wnae'r Gerdd, mewn dawn Airl

Yn felus-gerdd, iawn fflagwch, (*gwych*)

A chael ei Gwisg, wych hwyll gain,

Yn Aurwisg, iawn i arwain.

Deall a phwyll, diwyll Ffydd,

Dda didwyll, eiddo dedwydd.

Y Beirdd a fydd, beraidd fawl,

O Ryw Geuridd, Ragorwl.

Ar Iaith Aur wedd, o'r Wyth Ran,

Deg Allwedd, a'i dug allan.

Egoriad Cerdd, gariad cu,
 Gain ddwysgerdd, a gawn ddysgu,
 Deall modd diwyll maeth,
 Deg eurfodd, diwag Arfaeth,
 Mewn eglurder, mawyn glirddyd,
 Rheol wiwber, rhyw Elw bydd.
 Dysg Aruthr, da os gyrrî,
 A chu lain uthr, chwiliwn ni.
 Daw ais Arian, dwys Eurog,
 Cawn duedd Can, cyn dydd Cog.
 Camrau o les *Cymru* lan:
 Ceir hanes, Car oi hunan.
 Cei di Athraw, cyd Wythran,
 Cei Air o Law, cywir lan,
 Cei di *Gymru*, cyd Gamrig,
 Lwydd o ddu, a luddia ddig.
 Cei Riddin, cywir Roddiad.
 Cei Fel a Gwin, cu fawl gad.
 Cei Air a deg, cariad aeth:
Grammadeg, gwiw rym odiaeth.
 Yr hwn Ddwnd, rhan ddeunydd.
 Da ei Gred, ai diwag rydd,
 Duw bellach, y diballwr;
 A gadwo'n iach, y gwydn Wr.
 Boed Einioes, bywyd unol;
 Neu fwyn Oes, a Nef yn ol.
 Fr Awdwr a yrr wedi:
 Ddwys gain Wr, y Ddysg i ni.

Evan William Delyniwr o Langybi
 yn Sir Gaernarfon, a'i Ca'nt.

R H Y B U D D.

FOD y Grammadeg Cymraeg uniaith a soniwyd am dano er ys crynn dro yn barod. Yr hwn sy'n cynnwys Athrawiaeth Llafaryddion Llioeseiniaid, Helaeth Ddosparthar y Sillafau, a'i hamryw berthynasau. Wyth Ran Ymadrodd a'i Chynneddfau. Hyfforddiad i Iawn Yscrifennyddiaeth. Beth yw Enw Rhag-Enw, Gorair, Arorair, Cenedlryw, Nod Bannog, Cyssylltiad, y puna Amser ar Moddau. Cystrawen, Colofnau Cerdd Dafod. Ac Athrawiaeth Awdurdodawl, y Prif Feirdd yn Mhryddiaeth a Barddoniaeth, yn gyflawnach nag erioed o'r blaen.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(May 21, 1879.)

HAKLUYT, LEONARD, who had descended from a very genteel Herefordian family, was born near Leominster, in the latter part of the fourteenth century. He was present at the famous battle of Agincourt, and according to *Leland*, had "one St. George, a nobleman of France, to his prisoner." For his prowess on that occasion he was knighted by Henry on the field, and doubtless came back to England covered with glory. His descendants flourished long after his days in the Border Lands, and were accounted worthy of very honourable mention by local scribes. The celebrated Richard Hakluyt claimed descent from our worthy, but it is far more probable that he derived from another Leonard living in 1456, who was neither soldier nor lineal descendant of the more noteworthy personage named above. Sir Leonard died in the early part of the fifteenth century, "and was succeeded in his estates by a daughter." We are not to conclude from that record that he had no sons, for Robert and Edward are mentioned as his children, but they did not inherit his lands.

HALE, JOHN, born it is said at or near Elton, in Cheshire, was a person of some local consequence in the reign of Henry the Eighth. He carried on the business of a merchant at Chester, and being a devoted Romanist,

was greatly opposed to the suppression of the monasteries. He had fled to Norton Priory for refuge, and was taken prisoner there by Sir Piers Dutton, sheriff of Cheshire, who in August, 1536, reports, that he has taken the bodies of the Abbot of Norton "and John Hale m'chant of Chester, and have them in my custody and keepyng," just in time to prevent him from taking part in the *Popish rising* which soon followed in Lincolnshire and which terminated in the "Pilgrimage of Grace." Mr. Hale escaped punishment for his offences, but it is believed that he did not long survive the "misfortunes of the tymes," and that he "died a sounde Catholic."

HALL, DAVID, styled Sir David of Kinnersley, in Shropshire, had come of a great and distinguished lineage, being fifth in descent from Frederick, a natural son of Albert, Second Emperor of Germany, of the House of Hapsburgh, but he comes down to us with a still higher recommendation, as the lineal ancestor of Hall, or Halle, the Chronicler. Although this last was a Londoner by birth, the Halle's held a proud position in Shropshire, and from the little we know of Sir David, he was a right worthy gentleman, and fit to associate with the proudest of the land, both by descent, ability, and honourable qualities as a man.

HANBURY, CHARLES, second son of John Hanbury, of Pontypool Park, was born there, and became heir to his father's estates upon the death of his elder brother, John, in 1796, unmarried. He is best known to Monmouthshire readers as Mr. Hanbury Leigh, who in the year 1838 was created Lord Sudeley, and who, from his genial disposition, and the warm interest he took in the Iron Works, which had fallen into his father's hands, was universally beloved in that county. Mr. Stoughton (an Irishman) had married his mother, soon after his father's death, and had taken up his residence at Pontypool Park. His step-sons did not like him, and Charles especially had a great antipathy to him, probably because he had not acted very handsomely to his dead brother, in return for which Mr. Stoughton would at times go and turn off the water that supplied power to the "old forge" then held by Mr. Hanbury. When the latter heard the work stop, he would rush down to the forge and say to his foreman—James Powell—"Take the iron bar and hit Mr. Stoughton down, James," but James was wise enough not to heed his kind master on such occasions, and Mr. Stoughton was permitted to live on. This excellent man was accidentally poisoned, and died at Penarth in 1861.

HANBURY, JOHN CAPEL, born at Pontypool Park, Monmouthshire, in the year 1774, was the eldest son of John Hanbury, of the same place. He had the reputation of being well read in classics, and learned in historical knowledge, but he died in Spain in 1796 unmarried, and the promise of his boyhood was thus suddenly cut off in very early manhood. There is a curious story related respecting him, which is worth mentioning, as showing how old wives' fables will influence educated men. His mother had married for her second husband an Irishman of the name of Stoughton, and continued to reside at Pontypool Park. When young Hanbury died his remains were brought over to Monmouthshire for burial, and taken to his mother's residence; but Mr. Stoughton refused to allow them to be taken to the house, under the impression that if they once entered a legal estate revived in the deceased, and that both he and his wife forthwith lost all their interest—whatever that might have been—in the property. It is said that the Welsh entertained the notion that the entry of a dead body into a dwelling gave a legal right to a something which did not rest in a body

that had died in the house, and Mr. Stoughton probably had heard this old fable, and was determined that such a thing should not happen with his consent.

HANDFORD, DE JOHN, of Handforth-cum-Boeden, in Cheshire, was born in that county, 1391. Of a great house he himself became a great personage in its history, for he was engaged in active service abroad in the early part of Henry VI.'s reign, and for the bravery he displayed at the battle of Vermont in 1424, he was knighted. The king so highly approved of his conduct there that he granted him a pension for life. In 1434, he was again serving in France, under the Duke of Bedford, and so continued first under one leader, and then under another, to display those marks of valour, which helped to raise England in the middle ages to a very high place in the councils of Europe. The exact date of his death is not known, but in one place 1460 is mentioned as the year of his decease, in another two years later.

HANDFORD, WILLIAM, great grandson to the last named probably, was born at Handforth, and upon the death of his father he became heir to the estates of his brave progenitor, heir to all his valour also, to his love for arms, for the camp and the battle field, the glory and fame of old England, and the proud distinction of being a chief among the Cheshire "chief of men." He was under age in 1487, for his grandfather, Sir John Savage, and his stepfather, Edmund Trafford, were in that year appointed his guardians. In 1513 he was fighting on Flodden field, and there he gained the laurel crown which had to be placed not upon his head but his grave, for he fell upon that glorious field, and his name is thenceforth commemorated in history with that of Brankston Moor. It cannot be said of all battles that "there is virtue in fighting," but the Scotch king in taking part as he did with Louis the Twelfth of France against the English, had justly provoked Henry the Eighth to make war upon him. James, most of his principal nobility, and ten thousand of his army, were slain by the English under the Earl of Surrey in this great battle. Handforth was one of the few leading Englishmen who fell there, he died in a righteous cause, and we may say of him in the quaint language of an old ballad :—

But virtue into trampling still
Upon the throne of glorious fame;
Though spiteful death his body kill
Yet hurts he not his virtuous name;
By life or death what so betides
The state of virtue never slides.

He was the last of his race in a direct male line, his daughter and heiress succeeding to his estates, and carrying them away to another family.

HANDLOW, DE NICHOLAS, commonly called Lord Bernal, was son of Maud Bernal, of Acton Bernal, in Shropshire, by her second husband, John de Handlow (who died in 1346), and heir to his celebrated uncle, Sir Edward Bernal. The subject of this notice was present at the siege of Calais in 1346, with a hundred of his retainers, who displayed on their banners the proper arms of their commander. There was also present a Robert de Morley, who had assumed the same arms, without any warrant for doing so, and Lord Bernal complained to King Edward III., of this gross departure from the well defined laws of chivalry. The King referred the matter in dispute to the High Constable and the Earl Marshall of England, who held a Court of Chivalry upon the sands before Calais, and in due form cited the respective claimants to appear before them, and to sustain their suits. This curious trial lasted for several days, but was eventually settled by the King in a manner that secured

for him the useful services of the two proud commanders, who had thus for a time interfered with the prompt execution of his warlike measures. The arms were adjudged to belong to Bernal, but Morley was to be allowed to assume them for his own life only, and upon his death in 1360, he directed that his banner should be delivered up to Lord Bernal in the presence of members of the nobility, who had been summoned as witnesses of the ceremony. In our day, when men of rank, and of no rank, in fact, display heraldic coats of arms upon their carriages, plate, and signet rings, we attach no value to the laws of chivalry, but in ancient times, when the liberties of the people and the glory of the nation depended upon the overt acts of men of high estate, it was absolutely necessary that these laws should be well observed, for the servitors who fought for us then followed the lord; and not the Sovereign. Lord Bernal died in 1382, and is interred in Acton Bernal Church, under an altar tomb put up to his memory.

HANDMERE, WILLIAM, was born in Herefordshire, in the year 1681. He was related, on his mother's side, to Thomas Belton, who, dying in 1723, left upwards of twenty thousand pounds to be applied to the redemption of Christian slaves, taken prisoners by pirates. Mr. Handmere himself spent the best years of his life in the Levant, acting as a kind of factor to his relative and friend. He travelled much in the East, and witnessed the many cruelties inflicted by the Mussulmans on the native Christians. A manuscript volume of his letters to Mr. Belton was offered for sale in the early part of the present century, containing a most harrowing account of the sufferings endured by Greeks and Syrians, and some portions of them appeared in print. The writer was a man of keen observation, somewhat narrow, however, in his views, but evidently endowed with considerable natural abilities, and which he had turned to good account, in his risky trade enterprises. He died at Moscow, in 1742.

HANMER, EDWARD, son of one William Hanmer, of Haulton, was born, it is supposed, within the county of Salop, but he came of the Hammers of Flintshire, some branches of which family had, by marriage and otherwise, obtained settlements in the adjoining county. According to one account he was a soldier of some eminence in England about the close of the fifteenth century, but Lord Hanmer, in his "Memorial of the Parish of Hanmer," states that he went to Italy, where he entered the *condottieri* service of the Medici family at Florence, and was knighted there for his conduct in some of the Italian wars. The time in which he flourished is pretty well established by the award made by Sir William Stanley, of historic fame, in relation to a dispute his father had with his kinsman, Richard Hanmer, in relation to the right of presentation to the Vicarage of Hanmer Church. Sir William Stanley was beheaded in 1494. It does not appear what happened to Sir Edward Hanmer, for he was probably a younger son, and the descendants of his house having been otherwise provided for, he seems to have dropped out altogether from the "records."

HANMER, JOSEPH, son of Thomas Hanmer, of Middle, in Shropshire, was born in that place, and having been sent to Oxford for his education, he made sufficient progress there to entitle him to the honour of a D.D., and he was also fortunate enough to obtain the good living of Marchwiell, in Denbighshire. He was an excellent preacher, but a litigious man, and was always in trouble with his parishioners, but he had still a worse fault, a desire to make out a pedigree for himself from the ancient family of Hanmer in Flintshire, with whom, in fact, he had neither lot nor part. The story of his life is curious, for

his real name was Ellis, his grandfather being a Hanmer man of that name, who had settled at Middle, and then went by the name of Hanmer. A son of his kept a school at Shrewsbury, and was employed by the Vicar to read the Church Service for him. He probably adopted the name of Hanmer, and thus our hero acquired it. In a letter of his to Randle Holme, he states that he had married a daughter of Ralph Eddowes, gent., was a doctor of divinity, had an estate of £150 a year and a good hall house upon it, and that he was rector of Marchwiell, but we may be well assured that honest Randle Holme could not out of these facts trace him to the Hammers, and that he probably left him to himself. He was appointed to Marchwiell in 1668, and died there in 1691, when the living passed to Bishop Lloyd, who held it for some years in commendam.

HARDING, JOHN, a Shrewsbury attorney, and one of the original assistants nominated in the Charter of 1638, had been "malignant" enough during the civil war to hold fast to his rightful Sovereign the King. He had been expelled the town when the Commonwealth party came into power, but being a lawyer who could see clearly enough how the fortunes of the royalists had fallen into a sad plight, and having an eye to his own interests, he hastened to make his submission to the new masters, and in 1646 secured a pass which enabled him to proceed from Shrewsbury to London and back "without any lette or interruption" to attend upon the sequestrators with a view of compounding for his delinquency. Gold carried him safely through this purgatory, and in 1649, he was re-admitted into possession of his property, and was once more a free man. We must not be hard upon him, for he loved the land of his birth, and it is pleasing to know, how his name comes down to the present generation through a line of honoured descendants, whose loyalty has been as proverbial as that of any family upon the Salopian roll, but the historical moral conveyed in this short story of his life is none the less instructive because he happens to be one of the middle class, for very many of the higher one very quickly followed his example, and compounded for their so-called delinquencies.

HARDING, THOMAS, born at Usk, Monmouthshire, in the year 1819. Educated at Didsbury, in Cheshire, we meet with him in 1844 as a Wesleyan Minister at Monmouth. An instructive and evangelical preacher, he managed to commend the cause of religion to vast numbers of his countrymen. His consistent and peaceable life, his love for the young, and the confidence he himself had in the power of faith, helped to lend a charm to all he said, and proved that religion was profitable under every circumstance in the present life, and had in it the promise of a life of glory beyond the grave. He died in 1874, at Whitehaven, when preaching upon the eternal glory of the saints, and in a moment, as it were, was himself made a partaker of the bliss which he had been so earnestly dwelling upon.

HARE, THOMAS, who was nominated by King James the Second, in 1688, to be one of his subservient Burgesses of the town of Leominster, is a Herefordshire worthy deserving of lasting honour. The King had hoped to curb the growing sentiment in England by displacing one set of local magnates by others of a more flexible disposition, and thus carrying out his unconstitutional projects. Why he should have fixed upon Mr. Hare as a tool it is difficult to say, but within nine days of his nomination to office this excellent man refused the proffered honour, and so helped to defeat the King's projects, and to pave the way for that glorious revolution which brought William Prince of Orange to the throne.

HARDSACRE, WILLIAM, who fought gallantly against King Henry at the battle of Shrewsbury, is fittingly ranked among Salopian worthies, whose names should be had in remembrance. This brave knight did not fight for glory, nor had he occasion to do so for fame, but he did it from a high sense of honour, the King being in his opinion unjustly Monarch. On the evening preceding the day of battle he and his "six vassals" might be seen wending their way to Hotspur's camp. He carried about with him a principle that gave him courage, and when the hosts met upon the battlefield that courage gave him confidence, so that living or dying he struggled for the right. Early in the day he fell, pierced with arrows, but in his death, as in life, he proved how true and honourable a knight he was, and right or wrong in his convictions, we cannot but admire the memory of a man who sacrificed, as he did, his life for his honour.

HARDWICKE, WILLIAM, "the Shropshire genealogist and antiquary," was born at Alscofe, in Shropshire, in the year 1772; and having received an excellent education, he was articled to a solicitor at Wolverhampton, where he found ample opportunities to cultivate the genealogical passion which helped to make him famous. Having commenced practice on his own account at Bridgnorth, he served the office of Registrar of the Royal Peculiar Court in that town for the registration of wills, and thus had the means afforded him of acquiring valuable information upon subjects in which he took a great interest. His correspondence with Mr. Blakeway, the historian of Shropshire, is said to show how thoroughly he had mastered the intricate questions involved in local genealogical studies. His invaluable collection of Salopian pedigrees, however, best prove his title to eminence, and it is to be regretted that he did not himself edit and publish them in his life-time. He died in North Wales 1843, aged seventy-two.

HARLEY, BRIAN, second son of Sir Robert Harley, by Margaret de Brampton, was born at Brampton Brian, Herefordshire, and upon the death of his elder brother, Robert, he succeeded to the estates of his mother, and became a great magnate in his county. He was eminent as a soldier, and engaged in the French wars of his time. Edward the Black Prince thought so highly of him that he warmly recommended him to the king for the garter, but he died, before it was possible to elect him to that high dignity, and some say, upon the battle field. He had married Eleanor Corbet, of Moreton Say, in Shropshire, and had by her a son, who inherited Brampton, Bycton, Byton, and other estates once vested in the Brampton family.

HARLEY, BRIAN, son of the last named succeeding to the vast possessions of his grandmother, is called of Brampton Castle, Herefordshire, where he was born. He was governor of Montgomery and Dolyforwyn Castles, in the early part of Henry the Fourth's reign, and was eminent for the many services he rendered to that Monarch in opposition to Owen Glendower. The heralds say that he changed his crest, "from a buck's head proper, to a lion rampant, gules, issuing out of a tower triple toward proper" in memory of his triumph over the renowned warrior; at all events it is certain that he successfully defended the above named castles, when they were assaulted by Glendower, and that his valour entitled him therefore to any honour he might please to claim from his Sovereign. He left two sons by his wife Isolda Lyngayne. The eldest, Richard, died unmarried, and the second son, Jeffrey, succeeded to the estates and honours of his father.

HARLEY, EDWARD, eldest son of Sir Robert Harley, was born at Wigmore, Herefordshire, in the year 1624, and educated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford. He sat in Parliament for Herefordshire in the last Parliament called by king Charles the first, and when the civil war broke out he raised a regiment at his own cost and commanded it at several battles. In 1656 he was chosen to represent his native county in Parliament, but Cromwell would not have him, whereupon he and other secluded members published a remonstrance in which they said, "They must not be frightened nor flattered to betray the country and give up their religion, lives, and estates, to be at the will" of the dictator. We meet with his name again in the Parliament which restored Charles the second, then as governor of Dunkirk, and his conduct in that government is dwelt upon by Lord Landsdown in terms of very high eulogy. He sat in Parliament either as member for Radnor or Herefordshire in all the Parliaments summoned by Charles, and in several called by king William, and died in 1700 full of honours, for he possessed a conscience void of offence, and had served his country free from all reproach.

HARLEY, EDWARD, second son of the last-named, was born at Brampton Brian, Herefordshire, in the year 1664. He is the gentleman known to us in history as "Auditor Harley," and whose character has been summed up with rare truth and simplicity in the following sentences, copied from his monument at Titley Churchyard:—"He was recorder of Leominster above forty years, and represented that borough near thirty years in Parliament, in which his skill in the law, an unwearied application to business, an extensive knowledge of public affairs, joined with a calm and unprejudiced judgment, a steady and unbiassed adherence to the Constitution, and a disinterested zeal for the good of his country, made him justly esteemed one of the great supporters and ornaments of it." No doubt he acquired great wealth through his official position, but he was a generous and charitable man, and is known to have augmented several small livings in Herefordshire and Monmouthshire, promoted the interests of religious education, and in many other ways bountifully helped all who were in distress. On the whole he bore a reputable and honourable character, and, like other members of his family, he evinced a very warm interest in the welfare of his country, and served her faithfully down to 1735, when he died, aged seventy-one.

HARLEY, DE HENRY, third son of Sir Richard Harley, who died about the thirteenth of Edward the Second, was begotten out of Burga, a great Salopian lady who was styled "the lady of Willeghe and Kinlet," and who in the 14th Edward the Second released to the monks of Wenlock certain rents due to her. This son was educated for the Church and obtained the deanery of Bridgnorth, and is the gentleman "who raised great numbers of men in arms" to contest his right to that dignity, when Thomas de Eyton under a false pretence obtained a grant of it from King Edward the Third. He was grandson to Robert Harley who had married Alice Pulisdon, and through him had descended from Sir William de Harley mentioned in the College of Arms visitations of Shropshire as Lord of Harley in that county. It is asserted that this family had been settled in Shropshire long before the conquest, one of them having commanded an army at Pershore on behalf of King Ethelred against the Danes in the year 1013.

HARLEY, SIR ROBERT, who married Margaret, eldest daughter of Brian de Brampton, acquired through her on the death of her father, in the twenty-first year of Edward

the First, very vast possessions in Shropshire and the surrounding counties. He had descended from a great Salopian family, and we find his name in the Chancery lists of those knights and others in the county who were entitled to bear arms. In the 18th of Edward the Second he was appointed to array the forces raised in Shropshire for the service of the king; and in the 12th of Edward the Third he sat in Parliament as one of the knights for the county. We meet with his name in divers places between that time and 1349, when he died, and was succeeded by his son Robert Harley, who was the first of the family who claimed descent from the Bramptons and their illustrious kindred, the Mortimers, and the Lords of Brecknock. The Earls of Oxford and Mortimer claim descent from this alliance.

HARLEY, ROBERT, eldest son of Sir Robert and Lady Margaret Harley, was born at Brampton Brian, Herefordshire. He married Joan daughter of Sir Robert Corbet of Morton Corbet in Shropshire, and by her had an only daughter Alice, who married Sir Howard de Peshill a Staffordshire Knight. The failure of male issue worked a revolution in the fortunes of this great family, and led to a division of the estates. Alice Peshill inherited the old Harley ones, and Brian Harley (already mentioned) the Brampton ones. This Alice had no male heir, and her daughter Elizabeth on her marriage with Sir Richard Lacon carried the Harley property to that line, their son William Lacon succeeding to them as heir, and he in his turn becoming the founder of the Salopian families of his name resident at Kinlet, Throgland, Holloway, and Mountford. There was nothing great in the character or reputation of Mr. Harley to require notice, but we have thought it better to mention him as the county link between so many Shropshire worthies, and the two great Border houses of Harley and Brampton.

HARLEY, SIR WILLIAM, son of Sir John de Harley of Harley Castle, Shropshire, by Alice de Leighton, is always mentioned as among the most eminent Salopians who in the eleventh century distinguished themselves as men of war. He attended Godfrey de Bulloigne in the first memorable expedition to the Holy Land, in 1098, when Jerusalem was taken, and the Saracens defeated, and for his valour was made a Knight of the Sepulchre. He had married Catherine Crofts, daughter of another great English warrior, and their descendants have helped to make up many a chapter in the history of our country. Sir William was buried at the Abbey of Pershore, where a plain monument to his memory escaped demolition when the Abbeys were dissolved in Henry VIII.'s time. Collins says that it was the ancient custom to mark shields without arms upon the tombs of great men, and if this be true, then Sir William, must have been a very great man, seeing how entirely devoid of ornamentation is the tomb under which his remains lie.

HARRIES, THOMAS, second son of Francis Harries, of Benthall, in the county of Salop, succeeded his brother as heir of Cruckton, an old inheritance belonging to his race for more than four hundred years. Having entered the army, we meet with him in 1844 as a captain in the 63rd regiment of foot, and again in 1854 he is seen gallantly leading his men in the battles of the Alma, Balaclava, and Inkerman, in which last he was severely wounded. He was soon afterwards made Lieut.-Colonel by Brevet, receiving the war medal with four clasps, and also the Turkish war medal. The legion of honour knighthood was fittingly conferred upon him by the French Government, and from the Turkish one he received the 5th class of the Medjide. The gallant officer sold his commission in 1856, and has since that time lived in retirement in his

native county, deservedly honoured as one of the gallant heroes who had for so many years of his active life served his country so bravely and so well.

HARRIS, ISAAC, was born at Maesaleg, Monmouthshire, in the year 1782. He is one of the many dissenting ministers who have succeeded in making a deep impression upon the popular mind, without deriving the benefits of a moderate scholastic training. The secret of Mr. Harris's success lay in his intimate knowledge of the scriptures, native genius, and unquestionable piety. He often carried his hearers away by flights of perfect oratory, and he was on such occasions so moved by some unseen influence, that it was manifest his own soul had been fired from above. The innocence of his own life, and purity of character enabled him to subdue the evil passions of others, and thus he spent his days in doing good until 1862, when at the great age of eighty he died "in perfect peace." He was minister at a place called Morfa in Glamorganshire.

HARRIS, THOMAS, born at Moreton Corbet, Salop, in the year 1791, became a Wesleyan Methodist minister in 1812. He was possessed of considerable abilities, both ministerial and secular, and his highly honourable and consistent character commended him to the confidence and esteem of his co-religionists. He filled for the period of more than twenty years the responsible office of the Secretariat to the Annuitants' Fund, was superintendent of some of the most important circuits in the country, and elected to the still more responsible office of Chairman of various districts. There is a peculiar feature in Methodism, which finds a place for every man according to his ability, and if we had no other proofs of the excellency of Mr. Harris than those mentioned, they would of themselves be sufficient to commend him to notice. He was a truly godly man, faithful in the exercise of his ministry, and meet for the change from this life to a better one. He died in 1863.

HARRISON, THOMAS, a native of Beekbury, in Salop, and a minister of the Baptist persuasion, is mentioned in the *Gentleman's Magazine* as "a person of strong mind, exempt from gloom and bigotry, replete with knowledge of men, and of the manners of the middle class in society," just the man, in fact, who had been designed by Providence to influence the great backbone of English society, and by giving to it a religious tone helping to bridge over safely, the great gulph which separates the lower from the higher classes. That probably has been the greatest civil service rendered by Nonconformity to this country, for without some high moral influence of the kind, it is more than doubtful that long ere this the bands which have kept us so well together in England would have snapped, and that our highest liberties would have been sacrificed to party or to faction. This gentleman died in 1810, long before the Test and Corporation Acts had been repealed.

HARRISON, WILLIAM, born at Chester in 1798, represented an old Cheshire family, who had dwelt near Chester for many generations. He was educated first at the King's School in his native city, and then at the Manchester Grammar School, and afterwards settled at Chester as a tradesman. Mr. Thomas Hughes, a local antiquary, says of him—"He was a good classic, a great reader, and a man of superior attainments," was fond of drawing, and an excellent copyist of the old masters in oil. He died in 1865.

HASWELL, THOMAS, was born at Shrewsbury, in the year 1810. In early life he was convinced of his sinfulness by nature, and for a long time he sought the Lord with many tears. One evening he earnestly pleaded with God to show him the hindrance to his finding mercy; and

before the night closed he was enabled to rely on Christ as his Saviour, and his soul was filled with peace and joy. After labouring acceptably as a local preacher in the Methodist community, he was admitted as a student in the Theological Institution at Hoxton. In April, 1836, he was appointed to labour in the mission field, and sailed for India, where he became an able Missionary to the heathen. After fourteen years of successful toil in the foreign field he returned to his native land, and entered on the home work, labouring in various circuits with much success. He finished his course after a very short illness, December 15, 1868, loved and esteemed by all who knew him.

HAWKINS, MARGARET, born at Hergest Court, Herefordshire, had descended from the ancient family of Vaughan, long resident at that place. She was the daughter of Charles Vaughan, and upon her marriage became Lady Hawkins. She is named among the benefactors of her native county, having in 1632, founded and endowed a free grammar school at Kington, where the poor had provided for them the advantages of a classical, mathematical, and commercial education. To her great honour it is said that in her life time she had evinced the warmest interest in the welfare of poor children, and having crowned all love by the establishment of this school she is in every way deserving of everlasting remembrance.

HAWKINS, WILLIAM, a celebrated physician, was born at Newport, in Monmouthshire, where his father had a large practice as a surgeon. He received his classical education at Douay, and commenced his studies in medicine, under his uncle, Mr. Montomeir, who had spent some years at Paris. He afterwards attended the lectures of Dr. George Fordyce, and became a pupil of Dr. Baillie, and the celebrated Mr Hunter. His fame brought him into a large London practice, and the firmness of his character, and his boldness in decision, combined to secure for him the confidence both of his patients, and of the faculty, and thus he found himself ranked among the principal men of his age.

HAYLEY, THOMAS, born at Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, was son of William Hayley, of the same place. He was educated for the church, and by his own merits he worked his way to honour and dignity in her service. In 1712 (when his brother was dean), he became a residentiary at Chichester; and in 1728 we meet with him as prebendary at Winchester, and chaplain to the King. In every one of these positions he is said to have given satisfaction, his life and conversation being pure, his ministry effective, his influence always exercised for good. In 1739 he was made Dean of Chichester, where he died. The poet Hayley is supposed to be his grandson, but we have not seen the evidence for that statement.

HAYLEY, WILLIAM, brother to the last named, was also born at Cleobury Mortimer, in the year 1658, and we read how, at the age of fifteen, he, in 1673, matriculated at Baliol College, Oxford, and eventually he was made a Fellow of All Souls, and Chaplain to King William the Third. In 1695 he obtained the Rectory of St. Giles's in the Fields, London, and the following year marrying a daughter of Sir Thomas Meres, of Lincoln, he gained with her a support that became useful to him quickly, for in 1699 he got the Deanery of Chichester, a position which he had much coveted. He died in 1715. This Dean's name will always be identified with the diocese through a valuable MS. which he had completed from the old records of the see, and which is carefully preserved among the muniments of the cathedral church of that city.

HELLERSBY, THOMAS, a Monk, who was born near Chester in the year 1357, is mentioned as a "preaching

frere that tellen leasings, fables, and chronicles, and robben the people by false beggins." He taught that "the clergy of holy church is worthier, mightier, and of greater authority than is the Scripture of the Newe Testament," and may therefore be ranked among those who spent their lives in proclaiming to the English how they should all believe the legendary and romantic stories of the saints, whose famous lives had become the chief topic of sermonising in the days which immediately preceded the Wickliff reformation. The old English couplet,

This man is a friar,
Therefore he is a liar,

expresses somewhat curtly, how even then, the sturdy sons of Britain refused to accept all that was preached to them, but it would be wrong to say that all the friars were dishonest, and in the case of this Cheshire worthy there is some traditional testimony favourable to his memory, shewing that according to his light he desired to lead a godly life, and to save his soul alive through suffering. He died in London in the year 1427, if we can confide in a written record of his life, but he is at times confounded with another person of the same name who died in the early part of the following century.

JUNE 18, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(June 4, 1879).

In our instalment this week new documents appear in the Corporation lists; especially some relating to the Grammar School. Another week, the records on the subject will relate to the destruction of trees on that estate, in order to pay for a second master. ED.

Anno D'ni. 1606.

M'd. that the 21st daie of november we Thomas Iveson and John Willms gent. and Bayliffes for this year aforesaid have receaved unto our custody these Charters followinge viz.

- Impr. One Charter graunted from Will'm Earle of Arundel Lord ma'travers /
- ij. Two Charters graunted from Thomas Earle of Arundel Lord Maltravers
- ij. One other Charter graunted from Thomas Earle of Arundel and Surreye dated at Oswestre ye 24th day of Januarij the raigne of Henrye the fourth and ye eight year of his Raigne
- ij. The booke of Constitution
- ij. the burgesses Booke /
- ij. the towne seale
- ij. Et Seale w'th 2 lett'rs beyng J : R :
- ij. an auncient Charter from kinge Richarde the second.
- ij. A confirmacion from the late Queene Eliz: of Ric. the second Charter.
- ij. A Confession of the Liberties
- ij. an Order in the Starre Chambre and the 14th of february Anno. R. R. Jacobo primo /

xvijo die Octobr. Anno dm'i 1609

M'd. that the daie and yere abovesaid we Edward Meredith and Edward Trevor gent and late Bailiffs of the towne of Oswestre have deliv'ed to the custodie of Richard Jones and Will'm Myles gent nowe Bailiffs of the said towne as followeth.

Imprimis one Ch're from king Rich : the second Item. one other graunted from Will'm Earle of Arundell Matravers

- Item. ij othres graunted from Thomas Earle of Arundell lord M atravers

- Item. one other graunted from Thomas Earle of Arundell and Surrey
- Item. the booke of constitution
- Item. the burgesses booke
- Item. the towne seale
- Item. the seale with an I and O
- Item. a confirmacion from the late Quene
- Item. a confession of the liberties
- Item. an order out of the Starre Chamber

Anno Dni. 1611

M'd. That the daie and yere above written Will'm Heilyn and Will'm Merrice gent. the Bailiffes of the towne of Oswestree have R'd unto our custodye these Charters fowlowyng

- 1. Charter graunted from king Richard 2 :
- 2. from Tho : Earle of Arundell
- 1. being a confession of our liberties by his ma'tie Attorney generall upon a quoranto brought against the town
- 2. Booke of Constitution
- 2. old broken charter graunted by w'm Earle of Arundel
- 1. Charter mor from Tho : Earle of Arundel and Surreye
- 2. Towne seale of ki : Ric : 2
- 2. Towne booke
- 2. iron yard
- 2. Seale w'th I : and : O : used for bushells
- 2. Towne elle
- 2. blacke bagge w'th 2 coppies of othes
- 2. ffeoffment of the schole lands
- 2. ffeoffment of the vill lands
- 2. Bond of mr Kyffin scholem'r

M'd. that mr. John Blodwell And Thomas Eyvson, gent. Bayliffs have Res. the 21. day of october 1612. the Charters books & other muniments folowing viz

- 1. A confirmacion of Richard the 2. charter by queene Eliz.
- 2. Richard the Seconds Charter
- 3. The booke of Constitution
- 4. j Charter graunted by Thomas Earle of Arundel
- 5. A confession of our liberties upon a quoranto brought in the kings bench
- 6. j Charter graunted by William Earle of Arundel
- 7. a copy of 'assessment' of the schole lands
- 8. a copy of afee farme graunted of a mil in Mesbury part of the schole lands
- 9. A bond upon mr kyffin Scholemaster for p'rformance of c'rten Artickells
- 10. The Burgessis booke
- 11. one other booke wherein the bayliffs And murringer Accmpts is expressed
- 12. j yard of eyrne
- 13. j elle of eyrne
- 14. the towne seale
- 15. j eyrne Bushell

Quinto, Novembris. 1613.

M'd. that we Thomas Stanley and Theodore Trevor gent. Bailiffs have received by the hands of John Blodwell & Thomas Eyveson gent late Bailiffes the Charters bookes & other muniments followinge viz.

- o A Ch're graunted by king Richard the Second.
- o A confirmacon thereof from Queene Elizabeth
- o The booke of constitution
- o A ch're graunted by Tho's Earle of Arundel
- another graunted by one of the same name,
- o Another of Thomas Earle of Arundel & Surrey
- o A ch're of Will'm Earle of Arundel th'n another ch're of the same in peeses.

An Inrolment of a ch're.

A gifte left by Richard Earle of Arundell of c li. to the Burgessess of Oswestry

o Alsoe the confession of the lib'yes upon a Quowarranto.

o Mr Kiffin the scholmaster's bonds for the p'rformance of c'rtē Articles

The Baillyffes booke

Another booke wherein the Bailiffes & Muringer Accomtes is expressed /

It'm. one yarde of Iron /

It'm. one elle of Iron

the towne seale

the Iron bushell & pecke

Itm. we receive the counterp'rtes of ix leases of some p'rte of the schole lands to the Tenants w'thin specified /

Received the daye above s'd the accounts of Hughe Cadwalader late muringer amounting to iiijl. 1s. vijd. whereof he bestowed iiijl. xviijs. vijd. & res'r'eth iijs., w'ch is to bē bestowed upon the rep'racon of willowe gate /.

QUERIES.

DOUBTS AS TO THE AUTHORSHIP OF AN OLD WELSH HYMN.—In the editions of the Welsh Bible in common use among Churchmen, we find at the end a metrical version of the Psalms by Edmund Prys, and as an appendix a number of *Emynau* in the same metre. Among these is the well-known hymn beginning with the lines—

Myfi yw'r adgyfodiad mawr,

Myfi yw gwawr y bywyd.

A portion of this hymn is given in most of our hymn-books, and ascribed to Edmund Prys. So far there is no difficulty. But in the year 1755 there was a book called *Prif Addysc y Cristion*, brought out by the Rev. Edward Wynne, of Llanaber, son of Ellis Wynne, author of *Bardd Cwsg*. At the end of this book we have several poetical compositions by Ellis Wynne; and among these again we find the hymn in question, with the name of Ellis Wynne as the author. The internal evidence is certainly in favour of the Archdeacon; but how are we to explain the fact that Edward Wynne claimed it for his father, the author of *Bardd Cwsg*? L.E.

REPLIES.

CARNARVONSHIRE COUNTY ELECTION IN 1768. (June 4, 1879).—Your correspondent "A.R.P." is correct in supposing that there was a contest for that county in the year 1768. I have heard, in my younger days, from a member of my family, perhaps some fifty years since, that the candidates were Thomas Wynn, Esq., afterwards Sir Thomas Wynn, Bart., (and then Lord Newborough,) his brother, Colonel Glynn Wynn, and Wm. Wynne, of Wern, Esq., my grandfather. It will be seen from the return, in Mr. Breese's work, that the first of the above was the successful candidate. I have one of the originals of my grandfather's address. W.

JUNE 25, 1879.

MATHRAVEL.—This once important place is, as a correspondent supposes, in the neighbourhood of Meifod. By some it is supposed to have been the Mediolanum of the Romans. For "all about it" see History of Wales, Pennant's Tours, &c., &c., &c.

SHROPSHIRE WORD-BOOK.—The first part of Miss Jackson's long-looked-for "Glossary of Archaic and Provincial Words used in Shropshire" is now published, and there can be but one opinion as to the painstaking labour bestowed on it. Doubtless some of its contents will form matter for Notes and Queries in *Bye-gones*, and our column will contain many references to the book. Our purpose in calling attention to the first part is to inform such of our readers as it may concern that the subscription list will remain open until the second part is published; so if any of them should regret in the future that they have not secured the work, the fault will not be ours!

NOTES.

GRANT OF ARMS TO JOHN LLOYD.—The following Grant of Arms, dated 1627, to one of the family of Lloyd of Drenwydd, is copied from the original at Peniarth:—"To All, And Singlar Persons to whom theis presents shall come Sir William Segar Knight, alias Garter, Principall King of Armes sendeth his due salutations, and greeting. Knowe yee, that wheras ancientlye from the begynning, yt hath byn a Custome in all Countries, and Comonwealthes well governed, that the bearing of certeyn marcks in Sheilds (comonly called Armes) have byn and are, the only Signes, and demonstrac'ons either of prowess, and valoure atchyued in tymes of Warre, Or of good lyfe, and Cyvell conversacion, vsed in tymes of peace: being dyuersly distributed, according to the deserts of the persons demeriting the same. Among the which number I fynde John Lloyd now of London, Collector for the Farmers, in his Maiesties Custome-howe, employed for his integritye by the said Farmers in matters of great trust, and credytt, being the Sonne of John L'oyd of Whittington in the Countye of Salope gentleman, and beareth for his Coate-Armo'r Argent, an Eagle displayed, bicolled sable; beaked, and membred geules; Within a border engrailed Azure. His Crest, soethe of a wreathe of his coullors, A Roebuck, head proper, accolled with a garland vert, and attyred gold. Mantled geules, doubled argent, as in the margent are depiposed. All which Armes, and Crest, of the said Garter, by virtue, and power of myne Office, doe by theis presents ratifie, confirme, giue, graunt, and assigne vnto the said John Lloyd, of London aforesaid, and to his heires males for euer. And that yt shalbe lawfull for hym, and them, to vse, beare, and shewe-forthe the same, in Signetts, Seales, Sheilds, Monuments, or otherwise, att all tymes, and in all places, with their due differences, according to the custome, and Lawe of Armes. In Witnes wherof I the sayd Garter haue herevnto my hand and Seale of office, the first daye of Aprill a'o 1627, in the third year of the Rayne of our Sovrain Lord Charles by the grace of God, King of Great-Brittayne, France, and Irelande, & Defensor of the faith, &c "WILLM SEGAR, GARTER &c." W.

QUERIES.

LLANYCIL CHURCH.—In the south wall of the nave of this interesting church, now in course of restoration, there is a stone on which is carved a shield containing wolves' heads, fleur de lis, and this legend, HWY PERY. CLOD NAHOEDL, and below I V., 1671. What is the meaning of this? BOILEAU.

KINNERLEY CASTLE.—The Rev. R. W. Eyton, in his splendid work on the *Antiquities of Shropshire*, gives a copious account of this stronghold, which is said to have been destroyed by the Welsh in the reign of Henry III. Can any of your readers inform me if any trace of the castle yet remains, or even if the site it occupied is known or conjectured at? SAXON.

THE COURT OF MARCHES.—In King's *Vale Royal* I read, "Upon the election day, 1562 [at Chester] there was a great dissention between Thos. Hayward, merchant, and the Company of Glovers, so that many of the Glovers, and also Will. Aldersey, merchant, were called before the Council at *Ludlow*, and were there censured." I was not aware, until I had read this paragraph, that the jurisdiction of the Court of Marches extended to Chester, and should be glad if some of your correspondents could define shortly the circuit of its powers, and how it acquired the right of censure for offences committed within a city where a Recorder sat, and who possessed both civil and criminal jurisdiction, as was the case at Chester at the time mentioned above. R.G.A.

WILLIAM OWEN.—In a book called "The Stranger's Guide to Hampton Court Palace and Gardens" I find amongst the names of the painters (whose works are in the State Apartments of Hampton Court Palace, with their native places and the dates of their birth and decease) the name of William Owen, born in Wales, in the year 1766, and died in the year 1825. He being the only one that appears in the aforesaid book, as having been born in Wales, I feel anxious to know, in what parish and county? and as much of his whereabouts as any of your contributors may happen to know? D. EVANS.

Belle Vue, Trefeglwys.

REPLIES.

EXPLOSION AT WELSHPOOL (Dec. 25, 1878). My grandfather, who is still living in Welshpool, has often mentioned the circumstance of the fire at the Corner Shop in 1813, alluded to by NEMO. He was present at the fire, living then but a short distance from the scene. In 1813 he was about ten years of age, and has to the present day a clear recollection of what happened. The explosion of the gunpowder was something terrific, and it hurled portions of the timber into the vicarage gardens. At the time a large number of the French prisoners were residing in the town, and they displayed great activity in arresting the progress of the flames. Under the superintendence of some of the officers a line was formed to the Lledau brook, and water conveyed in buckets to others who very courageously entered the building. LLERTWEF.

FIRST WELSH NEWSPAPER (June 11, 1879). I well remember (being then five years old) the "first Welsh newspaper," referred to in *Bye-gones*, and called *Seren Gomer*, published under the very able editorship of the Rev. Joseph Harris of Swansea, and the stopping of its publication after the close of the French war in 1815, and its re-issue in 1818 as a monthly magazine, and its very great and well-deserved popularity then and subsequently. It was not, however, as you will find on enquiry, the first Welsh periodical; but one under the name of "*Y Drysorfa*" (The Treasury), commenced mainly under the editorship of the renowned Rev. Thomas Charles ("Charles o'r Bala") and printed by the late Mr. Saunderson at Bala, was, as I think, at least the first Welsh periodical. Perhaps some contributor will correct me if I am wrong. A.H.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr. E. C. Waters, writes in the *Athenæum* to correct an error into which, he says, Mr. Eyton has fallen in his paper on "Robert Fitz Wimarch and his descendants" in the Shropshire Archaeological Collections. "Mr. Eyton says that Henry de Essex married Cecily alias Alice de

Vere, the sister of Aubrey, first Earl of Oxford; but there is abundant proof that Cecily and Alice were two distinct persons, and that they belonged to different branches of the house of De Vere."

A "Calvary" group erected on the hill at the rear of the Monastery of St. Francis Capuchin, Pantasa, near Holywell, was unveiled a few days ago in the presence of a very large congregation. Each of the statues composing the group is life size, of galvanized bronze, by Meyer and Co., of Munich. The Calvary now completes "The Way of the Cross" at Pantasa. There is no other complete Calvary in Great Britain. The large cross can be seen for miles round.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(June 11, 1879.)

HELLYN, SIR JOHN, a celebrated Herefordian, is mentioned in an old manuscript as a great warrior, who had carried the fame of England "to divers parts of the Continent, and by his good sword he proved how valorous a man he was, and how ready to adventure his life for the Cross." We have sought in vain so to identify this gentleman, as to give some fair account of his services; but a friend has referred us to Mr. Heath's account of Marcle Church, for a confirmation of this note. All we can find there, however, is the following:—"Under the south window, opposite the reading desk, a whole length recumbent figure (carved in wood), a cushion under his head, and a dog at his feet, hands in the attitude of prayer and cross legged, Sir John Hellyn, of Hellyn." Marcle is distant some eight miles from Ross, on the Ledbury road, and the same correspondent informs us that a family of this name had been settled in that neighbourhood for some generations, the Marcle figure may probably represent the valiant warrior at the head of this note.

HERBERT, ARTHUR, said to be born in Monmouthshire about the commencement of the sixteenth century, is mentioned in some old MSS. as "A servant to Queen Elizabeth of glorious memory," and in some way engaged "in the management of her highness's horses." There does not appear to be any authentic record of this gentleman's relationship to the Herbert family, but Mr. Pennant in his Welsh tours refers to "a stud of horses," which he had been informed "Queen Elizabeth kept" at a seat of the Herberts called *Park*, near to Carno, in Montgomeryshire, and in his elegant manner says "Possibly the famous breed of Spanish horses introduced into the country by Robert, Earl of Shrewsbury, might render these parts distinguished for an excellent kind, even so late as the reign of that great Princess." The document in which our Herbert is mentioned belonged to the late Rev. Henry Parry, of Llanasa, in Flintshire, and if the record be true, Monmouthshire must not be allowed to lose the worthy name of a son who claimed descent from so illustrious a Monmouthshire house as that of the Herberts.

HERBERT, JENKIN, born, it is said, at Perth-hir, in Monmouthshire, deserves mention as the ancestor of a great race, who have played a distinguished part in the history of the Borders. His father was Adam Fitz-Herbert, Lord of Llanllwch; his mother Christiana, sole daughter and heiress of Gwilliam Ddu, of Wernddu, in Monmouthshire. The fortunate Adam gained a wife and a home by his marriage, and Monmouth a very honourable race of Herberts for her sons. Jenkin being the youngest, took his mother's estate, and married Gwenllian, daughter of Rhys ap Ilewelyn ap Ivor, and by her had two sons, William and Philip. There has been considerable con-

trovery in relation to the Herberts, but it may now be accepted as settled, that they derived from Herbertus Camerinus, who was living in 1131, and had served as Chamberlain to William the First and Second, and also to Henry the First, and that Adam Fitz Herbert, already mentioned, came in direct line from the Norman, who first settled in England. He was "Lord of Llanllwch, co. Monmouth," but not born there, and Jenkin therefore may be looked upon as the "head" of the Monmouthshire line, which for our present purpose may be said to be glorified in the two renowned brothers, Sir William and Sir Richard Herbert, of historic fame, both of whom have been mentioned in the former part of these notes. The date of Jenkin Herbert's birth, nor that of his death being mentioned, it is proper to state that he flourished about the close of the thirteenth, and commencement of the fourteenth century.

HERBERT, THOMAS, grandson of the last named, is best known as the "Lord of Wernddu," but he was born, it is believed, at Perth-hir, where his father resided, both places, however, being in Monmouthshire, we are entitled to claim him for that county. He married Maud, daughter of Sir John Morley, of Raglan, and resided at Llansaintffraid, in the same shire. There is a Welsh manuscript in which he is mentioned as "a great soldier" under the name of Thomas ap Gwillim ap Jenkin, that is, Thomas son of William grandson of Jenkin, and his identification is clear, for in that account he is said to have died in 1438, and Mr. Joseph Morris of Shrewsbury fixes the 8th of July in that year as the day of his decease.

HERBERT, WILLIAM, son of the last mentioned, who married Gwladys, daughter of Sir David Gam, and widow of Sir Roger Vaughan, both Agincourt heroes. He was himself knighted on the same glorious field, and was lovingly spoken of by the old Welsh historians as "Syr William ap Thomas, Lord of Raglan." A Monmouthshire man by birth, holding large possessions within the county, a great soldier and the chosen companion of a great king, we need not wonder that his memory is described with affection and reverence throughout the border lands of Wales. To add to his honours it was his happiness to be the father of Sir William Herbert, K.G., created Baron Herbert in 1461, and Earl of Pembroke in 1463, and of Sir Richard Herbert of Colebrook, whose famous deeds have been mentioned already. The principal branches of this great family proceed from these two sons of his, and it is not too much to say of them that in every line of their descent, we meet with warriors and statesmen, writers and patriots, who have done infinite service to their country, without doing dishonour to the name or character of their noble ancestor, whose many virtues it was impossible to excel.

HERBERT, SIR WILLIAM, of St. Gillians, in Monmouthshire, was born in that county, and according to the testimony of Lord Herbert, of Chirbury, "he was much conversant with books, and especially given to the study of divinity, inasmuch that he wrote an exposition upon the Revelations, which is printed." Lord Herbert does not seem to think that he understood the mysteries of that book, although he admits "he was very understanding in all other things," and noted for his high-mindedness. From another source we gather how humble he was in all his thoughts upon divine things, and we are therefore entitled to conclude that the "high-mindedness" alluded to did not consist in the mean and baser qualities characteristic of the worldly man, but that it savoured of that settled conviction which led Sir William to hold fast to a truth because he felt it was his duty to do so. At

his death he left an only daughter, who in 1598 married her kinsman Edward Herbert (who subsequently became Lord of Chirbury), and she carried with her to that branch of this great house the vast possessions of her father in the three countries of England, Wales, and Ireland.

HERGEST, JOHN, born at Kington, Herefordshire, in the year 1651, was educated at Oxford, and proceeded to his M.A. degree as of Christ Church. He was a person of considerable eminence both as a scholar and a preacher, and for some time he was Vicar of St. Mary's, Brecknock, also Rector of New Radnor, and Prebendary of the Collegiate Church at Brecon. He died in 1684, and was buried at Kington, where a Latin inscription was placed over his grave, and there he is noticed "for the acuteness of his wit, his eloquence and powers of persuasion, and for his virtuous and pious conduct," all which qualifications are but small tributes to his real worth, for according to another testimony "he excelled in all the virtues appertaining to his high office, and was skilled in the arts and a proficient in the dead languages."

HEYWARD, SIR ROWLAND, a Salopian by birth, is reported to have settled in London early in life, and his name appears as a member of the Clothworkers' Company. In time he was chosen Alderman of Farringdon Without, and afterwards of Vintry Ward, and in 1563 he was chosen Sheriff of London, and in 1570 Lord Mayor. We know but little of his history, and all that Mr. Orridge can tell us about him is, that he was "an ancestor of the Marquis of Bath, and died senior Alderman in the year 1593."

HILL, JAMES, who issued proposals in 1715 for publishing by subscription the history of the City of Hereford is said to have been born in that county. He was a barrister by profession, but a born antiquarian, and this is shown by the unexampled trouble he took to gather up every fragment he could lay his hands upon, pertaining to the history of the county, and especially the city of Hereford. The scheme did not answer his expectations, for his patrons were few in number and not very hearty in the support they promised to give him, so that his loving labours were vain, and the promised work never published. Mr. Hill died in 1727, and his valuable papers were sold to Mr. Isaac Taylor, a celebrated land surveyor, who it is supposed purchased them for Mr. Roberts, of Ross.

HILL, MILES. A gentleman of this name was born near Monmouth about the close of the sixteenth century. Descended from a good family, he had been well educated, and when the bloody time arrived when king and people stood out in battle array to maintain their respective "divine rights" one against the other, Mr. Hill is supposed to have used the pen of a ready writer, and to have prepared a good many pamphlets for the press. "The strong castle of Gotheridge (Goodrich doubtless) taken by Col. Birch," and published in London 1646, is said to have been written by him. It is dated Hereford, July 29, 1646, and this possibly may be accepted as confirmatory in part of his authorship. He died in a few years afterwards, at Hereford, it is said.

HOBBY, PHILIP, son of William Hobby, of Leominster, was born in that town, and very early in life he devoted himself to the study of the law. He subsequently attained to the dignity of the Coif, and Henry the eighth had formed so high opinion of his abilities that he employed him in 1537 (with Holbein), to procure the picture of the Duchess of Milan, when he contemplated marrying that princess. He and Sir Thomas Wyatt went subsequently on an embassy

to the Emperor Charles V., on the same business, and Hobby was rewarded for his services on that occasion by Knighthood, and a seat in the King's Council. It is stated of him that he was zealously attached to the reformed faith, and very mindful of the Protestant interest in Herefordshire, but judging from the whole tenor of his life it would be more true perhaps to say, that he was well affected to the King's wishes, and studied to promote all public measures which tended to please the monarch, and to advantage Sir Philip Hobby in particular.

HOBBY, THOMAS, brother of the last-named, was a greater man than Sir Philip, being an accomplished statesman, and diplomatist. He served for some time as Ambassador for the English Court at Paris, and there are ample proofs of his great ability in that capacity, and of his tact in the fulfilment of the duties of his very dignified position. He doubtless amassed considerable wealth in the pursuit of it, for he is known to have founded a family of some renown, out of which have sprung a line of baronets, which continued to flourish down to 1766. This eminent man died abroad, but it is guessed by some writers that his body was brought to Leominster, his native place, for burial. That, however, is but a guess, for there is no reliable evidence in support of the statement.

HOBBY, WILLIAM, of the same family as the last-named, and a Herefordian by birth, is noted for his illusion in believing that he possessed the art of discovering treasure trove. He managed to get into the Tower of London for some offence, from whence he wrote to the Lord Treasurer Burghley intimating to him how he would, if he obtained his liberty, search within the Castle of Skenfrith, in Monmouthshire, for hogsheds of gold and silver, said to be hidden there, and where, according to an old legend, the "dyvell and his dame" kept watch and ward over the same; "one sits upon a hogshed of gold, the other upon a hogshed of silver, yet nevertheless (says he, under date of 1589), with your lordship's full power and authority, they shall be removed, by the grace of God, without any charge to the Quene and your Lordship." We fear that old Burghley did nothing but shake his head by way of answer to poor Hobby's bait, for so late as 1764 the "dyvell and his dame" continued in possession of the treasure, and our worthy had long departed to another place where, in company with his old master Dee, he might re-discuss at leisure the mysteries which had occupied so much of their thoughts when in the flesh. He died in the early part of the seventeenth century "a firm believer in mystic sciences, and deeply versed in the legendary lore of his country."

HOBDY, WILLIAM, supposed to be a cousin of Philip and Thomas Hobby, was born at Leominster. He has the reputation of being a genuine reformer in religion during the latter days of Henry VIII.'s reign, but why he changed his surname is not clear, unless, indeed it be for reasons of State, for he served under Thomas Hobby in France in a menial position, and afterwards proceeded to Holland, where he lived in seclusion for some years. He seems to have spent most of his time abroad, "and did not dare to return to England during Queen Mary's reign," the very best evidence we can probably have of the "genuine" character of his reforming views. He was in London in the early days of Elizabeth, and is supposed to have died there at a good old age. A son of his of the same name has the credit of having printed some things in the seventeenth century, but being a "foreigner" by birth, we cannot fittingly dwell upon his life in these records.

JULY 2, 1879.

THE RIVER DEE.—On April 17, 1878, you published some lines about the Dee, commencing "Had I been U." They were given on the authority of a Mr. Turner of Gloucester, who inserted them in a tour he published. You will find the lines in Hone's *Table Book*, p. 480, headed "A Capital Extempore. To the Author of some Bad Lines on the River Dee." I cannot say which was published first, Hone's book or Turner's; and it may be they both quoted from an earlier authority.—ARGUS.

NOTES.

LLANRHAIADR.—The following lines are written on a piece of paper pasted under the lid of a desk in Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochant Church:—

"Once as a thoughtless paseer by
I viewed the dead as thou dost me
Ere long thou'lt be as low as I
And others stand and look at thee."

In the town I observed over the door of a cottage where a few sweets were sold, "M J Williams Grocer Provisioner Dealer in Sauces." BOILEAU.

QUERIES.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR. The Rev. D. Silvan Evans, writing to the *Athenaeum* of May 17, referring to the late Rev. Robert Jones's copy of this work (which it is supposed was printed on the Continent in 1567), says he only knows of one complete copy, and asks for descriptions of any, supposed, perfect copies in existence. Mr. Silvan Evans of course by "perfect," means as the work left the author; for he adds, "There is reason to believe the work was never finished." BOOKWORM.

LYOYD OF ALLINGTON.—I am anxious to obtain information as to the origin and pedigree of the family of Lloyd of Allington, in the parish of Gresford, Denbighshire. If I am not mistaken *Lancelot* occurs rather frequently as a Christian name in the older generations? NEWO.

AN INSCRIPTION AT MACHYNLLETH.—The following characters are carved in wood over a door in Maengwyn-street, Machynlleth:—

1628IWENPVQHIOVXOV

What does it mean?

D. EVANS.

Belle Vue, Trefeglwys.

REPLIES.

FIRST NEWSPAPER ISSUED IN WALES (Mar. 26, 1879).—*The Cambrian* was issued at Swansea, as indicated in the prospectus "H.B." quotes, and it still flourishes. I have before me as I write "No. 3928, vol. 76, May 30, 1879." Under the title is the line "Established January 1804." NEMO.

POSTAL REGULATIONS (May 21, 1879).—No improvement has been effected in Postal communication between Drayton and Shrewsbury since the time when Hulbert wrote, the mails even now, passing between those places, being carried via Stafford. As regards the charges, they must have been regulated by the distance carried or the charge between Drayton and Shrewsbury would not have been so much, but going round by Birmingham would more than double the distance. Postage from Shrewsbury to London was 10d. for a single letter, that is, a letter written on one sheet of paper; the

most trifling enclosure made it a double letter liable to double charge. From Shrewsbury to Welchpool was 4d. and I think Oswestry the same. I remember a scrap of sugar paper being sent as a sample in a letter to a Shrewsbury tradesman from Morda mills, which was, I think, charged 8d. as double postage. There were, of course, no envelopes then or they would have formed double letters. I believe I am correct in saying that the maximum weight of a single letter was one ounce.

W.H.

BRYNHAUOD LANE, OSWESTRY (June 4, 1879).—May I venture to suggest a meaning for the old name of this lane? At the top of the lane we have "High Fawr" farm; and not far off the old mansion "The Hayes." The lane was called "Llwyn yr High lane." "High Fawr" means "Big Hayes." "Llwyn yr High lane" would therefore be "Hayes Wood lane." BONWM.

"Llw (Llwyn) y Rhi" is evidently a corruption of "Llwyn yr Haye," and means The Park Coppice. The lane in question led to the back of the Hayes, and to the farm called "The Haye-Fawr," or Great Park. D.R.T.

As a boy in Oswestry I remember the road universally called "Lew-e-Li-Lane"! FAR AWAY.

BABBINS WOOD. (May 28, 1879).—With reference to JARCO's enquiry, the following information may throw some additional light on the subject, though it does not by any means solve the question. In the romantic history of Fulk Fitz Warine, Lord of Whittington, edited some years ago for the Wharton Club, by Thos. Wright, Esq., from a manuscript preserved in the British Museum, which the editor considers to date from about 1320, but to be a paraphrase of an earlier record (probably an Anglo-Norman poem composed about the end of the 13th century), the following passage occurs, which I quote in the old French, together with Mr. Wright's translation:—

Sire Foulke e sa gent cele nuyt vont en une Foreste q'est apellée Babbynq, qe s'ent de lées Blaunche-Ville pur espier Morsys le fitz Rogier.

Translation.—Sir Fulk and his men that night go into a forest which is called Babbing, which is near White-Town to spy Moris Fitz Roger.

In a note at the end of the work the editor remarks:—"Perhaps this is what is now called Babies Wood, about a mile and a half to the south-east of Whittington, the modern name being a corruption of the old one." If we accept the above as trustworthy, we have clear evidence of the name being in use about 600 years since. I may add that there are two woods near Whittington at present known by this name, and within half a mile of each other.

SAXON.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (June 4, 1879).—From the subject of profit and loss Mr. Pennant goes on to his complaint of the conduct of the drivers and guards of the royal mails, "on the Irish road through North Wales." He says that a guard, "on a trifling quarrel, shot dead a poor old gate-keeper; a coroner's jury was huddled up, and in defiance of the tears of the widow, no judicial notice has been taken of the affair to this very day."

In Anglesey, another of these guards discharged his pistol wantonly in the face of a chaise horse, drawing his master, the Rev. John Bulkeley, who was flung out, and died either on the spot or soon after. These guards shoot at dogs, hogs, sheep and poultry, as they pass the road, and even in towns, to the great terror and danger of the inhabitants.

Mr. Pennant determined to put a stop to these excesses, and he soon had the opportunity. He says:—

A neighbouring gate-keeper laid before me a complaint, that one of the guards had threatened to blow his brains out; and had actually shot a dog that had offended him by his barking. I issued out my warrant, had the guard seized, and brought before me. He was a man who, for his great beauty and elegant person, was called the Prince of Wales. I did not hesitate to play the Judge Gascoigne; but from the goodness of his appearance, and the propriety of his behaviour, I did not go quite the length that famous magistrate did. I took bail for his appearance at our quarter sessions. He appeared before us, when, by the permission of the Chairman, I took the lead in speaking. I represented to the audience, that the guards were intrusted with arms merely for the protection of the mail and the passengers, not for the terror of his Majesty's subjects; that a mail-coach was no sanctuary; that the bailiff might drag the debtor out of it; the constable, the felon; the exciseman might rummage it for contraband goods, and that with as little ceremony as if it had been a higler's cart. I farther added, had the driver been the offender, as the guard was, he should have been taken into custody, and the post-master of the district left to provide another to convey the mail to the next stop. The behaviour of the delinquent was so becoming his situation, that by the leave of the Court I dismissed the offender with such a reprimand as became the high status of a *British* justice of the peace; an office in dignity and constitutional utility inferior to none in the land. Young men of the age, early initiate yourselves into that great character!

The letter in which all this appears, is dated, Mar. 31, 1792, and with it Mr. Pennant encloses other documents on the subject, which may be suitable to notice anon; one note, dated Feb. 18, 1793, however, I will refer to now as it is in illustration of the brutal conduct of the custodians of the mails. The leniency to the guard did not seem to put a stop to the practices complained of, and the writer complains of the favourite custom of the drivers in "flinging out their lashes at harmless passengers by way of fun."

Very lately one of these wretches succeeded so well as to twist his lash round a poor fellow's neck in the parish I live. He dragged the man under the wheels, by which one of his arms was broken. If ample satisfaction is not made, an action shall be commenced against the proprietors of the coach, who are certainly answerable for the misconduct of their people.

I may add that I glean my information on this subject from the appendix to Pennant's *Literary Life*, published in the same year on which the last note quoted was written. N.W.S.

BORDER COUNTIES' WORTHIES.

(June 25, 1879.)

HODGES, ROBERT, a Salopian by birth, was the first of his family who settled in the neighbourhood of Ludlow, and from him came Richard Hodges, grandfather to the author of "The History of Ludlow Castle." He was eminent as an antiquary, and a collector of manuscripts, well versed also in the local traditions of his native county, and a very accomplished scholar. Bishop Field, of St. David's, was a friend and correspondent of his, and we are enabled in that way to fix the time when he flourished, the Bishop having died in 1636. Many of his papers passed into the hands of Bishop Herbert Croft, and as he died in 1691, it is safe to conclude that Mr. Hodges had pre-deceased him, for Croft probably purchased them after his death.

HODGES, THOMAS, who in 1661 was installed Dean of Hereford, is said to have been born on the borders of Shropshire. He had served in the Church as Rector of Kensington before the rebellion, and after the restoration he obtained the rectory of St. Peter's, Cornhill, London. Wood says he had proceeded to his D.D. degree, and another writer lauds him for his learning and eloquence, but all that is really known of him may be stammered up in the last record of all, "He died Dean of Hereford in

1672," during the incumbency of that see by Herbert Croft. They were relations in blood, but quite opposed to each other in ritualistic views, and we suspect in some points of faith also.

HODGES, WILLIAM, who in 1794 published an interesting little work on the "History of Ludlow Castle," was born at Felton, near Ludlow, in the year 1759, being the eldest son of Richard and Sarah Hodges (married in 1758). He was educated for the law, and became an attorney; but he does not appear to have followed that profession for any length of time. It is not known when or where he died, but it is generally thought he was buried at Worcester.

HODGES, WILLIAM, a Shropshire man by birth, is worthy of mention as one of the many gallant young fellows who left England in the latter part of the eighteenth century to serve with the armies of the East India Company. He was present when Tadasugurr was attacked in 1783, and headed a file of troopers who had been selected to scale the heights of the fortress. It was a daring and dangerous undertaking, but the gallant young officer saw nothing in it to cause him fear, but a wreath of glory beyond the venture had many attractions for him. The glory came quickly, for he was killed on the spot. In the records of the campaign he is spoken of in terms of well-deserved eulogy as a man of great promise, who had sacrificed ease and affluence at home in the hope of serving his country abroad. It has often been remarked that some of the most promising of English officers are killed early in life, and it is said, with some show of reason, that many of our greatest disasters on the battle field have arisen from the fact that our commanders are too old. A moment's reflection should satisfy us how this cannot very well be helped, for it is the dashing fellows who always get to the front, and the wary ones who wisely keep to the rear. Both are equally valuable and equally courageous, but until the whole science of warfare is changed, these unequal chances must exist. Lieut. Hodges belonged to the first rank, and thus before he had attained the age of four and twenty he was numbered among the gallant slain who sacrificed life to a sense of duty.

HODGKINSON, EATON, born at Anderton, in Cheshire, 1789, is known in the mechanical world as a great authority upon the properties of iron, cast or wrought, with regard to its application both in architecture and in engineering. It would be impossible to do justice to his wonderful talents in a notice like this, for he occupies so large a share in the history of modern science, that it would require a volume to rehearse his labours and the great results that have followed them. His assistance has been sought by every engineer of eminence when they required precise and exact information on the mechanism of their greatest works, and when Mr. Robert Stephenson conceived the idea of constructing the Britannia Bridge, it was to Mr. Hodgkinson chiefly he looked both for the determination of the proportions, and of the structural strength of that remarkable work. His fame is world wide, and no one will call in question his eminence as a mechanical engineer and a scientific man.

HOLINSHEAD, OTTIWELL, to whom we have before alluded in another notice, was son of Hugh Holinshead of the Hollins in Sutton Downes, Cheshire, who was a brother of Ralph the father of Raphael. He was educated at Cambridge, proceeded B.A. 1540-1, and commenced M.A. 1544. He was appointed one of the fellows of Trinity College by the charter of foundation 19 Dec., 1546. Although not in holy orders he obtained the grant of a canonry in the church of Windsor 24 Sept., 1550.

This preferment he, however, resigned on or before 10 Dec., 1554, most probably on account of the change of religion which took place upon Queen Mary's accession. Of his subsequent history we only know that he is described as of Ashby-de-la-Zouch in Leicestershire, and that he married Margaret, daughter of Henry Harden, of Ascot. We think it highly probable that he rendered assistance to his cousin Raphael in the compilation of his celebrated chronicles.

HOLT, EDWARD, a Cestrian by birth, and son to a daughter of the Stanleys, of Knowsley, in Lancashire, through whom he acquired considerable property, is deserving of honourable mention for the many services he rendered to the poor of his native city. His generous heart induced him to appropriate his ample wealth in this Christian manner, and in supporting every moral and religious movement that had a tendency to elevate mankind, and to bring lost sinners to a saving knowledge of God. His name figures among the first supporters of the Bible Society in Cheshire; he was its first chairman in that county, and its most active and liberal friend. He died in 1816, and was mourned for by the poor to whom he had been all his life a true friend and a generous benefactor.

HOPE, JOHN, a Chester man by birth, who in 1412, 1413, and 1414, signed himself "John del Hope, Sheriff of Chester," and in 1419, and 1421-1424 and 1427, gloried in being "Maior" of his native city. How he felt in his heart is not known, but according to the records, he true allegiance bore to Henry of Lancaster, and visited with due severity the short comings of the wild Welshmen who declined to acknowledge that monarch as lord and master. We must not wonder at this, for in 1409, Henry had shown his great displeasure to the city because many of the citizens had taken the part of Henry Percy at the battle of Shrewsbury. Richard was the "true King" in Cheshire, however, for the gentlemen of the county had served as his body guard, and Mayor Hope when he had the chance became active on the other side, so that his loyalty was rewarded accordingly.

HOPKIN, WILLIAM, born within the hundred of Wormelow, Herefordshire, about the middle of the sixteenth century, was esteemed as among the earliest promoters of the reformation in religion, upon the borders of South Wales. He was friendly with Bishop William Morgan, when that renowned scholar presided over the see of Llandaff, and being himself a good Hebrew and Welsh scholar, he is supposed to have been consulted by the Bishop when, as vicar of Llanrhaidr, he was engaged upon the translation of the Old Testament Scriptures into Welsh. A son of his was living in Herefordshire, 26th of Elizabeth, and in an old manuscript signed by the latter, the learning and virtues of the father are dwelt upon with pardonable pride. The family are supposed to have been of Welsh origin, but they had been settled in Herefordshire for some generations, always maintaining the reputation of upright and godly men.

HOPTON, JOHN, a native of Chirbury, Salop, was a great nephew of Edward Hopton, the supposed founder of the family, who had settled in that place. He travelled much in foreign lands, and fought under foreign flags, for, "he loved to hunt after fame in divers methods, and chose to live by his own wits, at a time when his kindred gathered up honours at home." Some of his manuscripts were deposited at the Hereford Cathedral Library, and afterwards fell into the hands of Silas Taylor, a captain of the Parliamentary army, but none of them seem to have been published. He died in London about the close of

the sixteenth century. Some Hoptons have claimed descent from him, but our worthy died single, nor had he lands to bequeath to others, so that on both grounds there remaineth no heraldic records of value to boast of by his *supposed* modern representatives.

HOPTON, WILLIAM, son of John Hopton, of Chirbury Priory, in Shropshire, was born in that historical spot, after it had been purchased by Edward Hopton, of Rock-hill, in the time of Henry the Eighth, on the dissolution of the monasteries. He was sheriff of Shropshire in 1591, and so consequential and proud of his ancient blood that he scarce would suffer the new race of gentility to approach him. He disinherited his eldest son in 1599, because he had married a merchant's daughter, a lucky thing for the second son, Sir Richard Hopton, of Canon Frome, Herefordshire, but most unfair to the elder one, who, notwithstanding this indignity, however, managed to do honour to the name of his family, both in the Church and at the bar. It is but just to Mr. Hopton's memory to add that in all other respects "he was a right worthie gentleman, kinde to the poore, generous to alle men, and learned withal." His honourable name, his virtues, and his services to his country fairly entitle him to mention in these records as a leading man of his times.

HOWE, WILLIAM, a Cheshire man of some consequence in the early part of the fifteenth century, has managed in conjunction with his wife Sybyll, to keep his own, and her name in sweet remembrance upon the page of local history, by their joint contributions for the support of the Guilds of Wich-Malbank, and the provision they made for the support of "six priests who were to officiate daily in the Parish Church of the Blessed Mary in Wich-Malbank aforesaid." In consideration of their goodness and liberality they were entitled to a "participation of all the masses which in the said church shall be celebrated, and unto all other works and intercessions, which by our brethren are performed. Further, granting that after death, your souls shall be commended and offered by the prayers of the saints, priests, and brethren of the Guild, in Masses and Esequies." The curious document which gave to good William Howe and his wife these comforting assurances, is dated 1461; and much as we may be disposed to smile at its contents, we should try and realize how precious these promises must have been to the goodly fellowship of early Christians, who lacked the knowledge of that more perfect way of pleasing God, which their successors have found for themselves within the pages of the Holy Scriptures.

HOWELL, PHILIP, a Herefordian by birth and a soldier by calling, must have given the Salopians sore trouble in the early days when Henry the Sixth ruled England. Roger Corbet, Walter Hopton, and Ralph Lee, "and others of prime marke and note in the countie of Salop made great complaint" against him "for divers damages and losses that countie systained by the sayd Philip, and noe justice could be had against him, for that Griffith ap Nicholas did recover, maintaine, comfort, and cherish him from time to time, to the great derogation and losse of the King's leige people dwelling within the sayd countie." Both Howell and Griffith ap Nicholas were "found guiltie of felonie," but as they sided with Richard, Duke of York, it is more than likely they both escaped punishment. The latter, we know, was killed at Mortimer's Cross, but Howell was living long after that time, "havinge displayed greate valour upon the fieelde, and holpen to secure the victorie for us." Notwithstanding all that is said by the Salopians to the contrary, Howell was no felon in the sense implied by them; but a dare

devil soldier, who put the enemy to fire and sword, and who thought it "all faire in warre when Richard's interests demanded itt att his hands." Sad as were his actions, it is right to suppose that he only did his duty, and he is therefore worthy of honourable mention in these sheets—bloody a man though he was.

HOWELL, RICHARD, brother of the last named, was a very different man, for he favoured the English interest, and was utterly opposed to the Welsh one, who in return punished him sorely whenever they could push their forces far into the interior of Herefordshire. It is remarkable to notice how divided men of the same blood were in the kingly quarrels of former days, but this is partly accounted for by the fact that what one member of a given family lost on one side, was afterwards found in the possession of another member of the same family, who had taken up arms on the other side. Philip Howell was "a raider," whereas Richard stood upon the defence; the elder brother adventured much to gain more, the younger one held fast to what he had, staid at home, and many good gifts fell thus into his hands, and were preserved thereby to the Howells, who succeeded to the father's name and enlarged possessions. On the whole Richard Howell was a more excellent man than his brother, and he managed to die in peace at a good old age.

HOWELL, THOMAS, a Monmouthshire man, who in the early days of the sixteenth century settled at Seville, in Spain, as a merchant, in 1540 bequeathed twelve thousand ducats of gold to the Drapers' Company in London, to be invested by them so as to produce a sufficient annual sum for division among four maidens, being orphans of his blood and kin, or failing them to others in the manner and form mentioned in his will. The property soon got into the hands of the lawyers, and it became a subject of litigation in Chancery so early as 1559. Fortunately the Drapers' Company invested the money in lands within the city of London, and in 1853 a scheme was presented by the Attorney General, under which two schools for female orphans should be established at the cost of the fund, one in South Wales and the other in North Wales, where they were to be educated and provided for until they attained the age of eighteen, and a dower of one hundred pounds was also to be paid to each upon her marriage. The education given is excellent, and thus, after the lapse of more than three hundred years, the benefaction of Howell is turned to good account, having meanwhile comforted many a lawyer, and made glad the heart of many a judge in equity. The story of Howell's Charity is as pretty a commentary upon the boasted good management of trust estates in free England as can be found upon the page of history.

HUGHES, EDWARD, a native of Hereford, entered early into the naval service, and in 1740 Admiral Vernon promoted him to the rank of lieutenant, as a reward for the valour he had displayed at the capture of Porto Bello. He was appointed to the command of the *Lark* in 1747, and eight years after that he was in command of the *Deal Castle*, a twenty-four gunner. In 1778 he was made a rear admiral of the blue, got a chief command in the East Indies, and was honoured with the Order of the Bath. The story of his stirring life, his gallantry, his successes, and his sufferings is well narrated in the account of the British Admirals, and it is truly said of him that "the goodness of his heart led him to acts of benevolence, which though unostentatious, will remain recorded in the memories of many." He had gained much wealth in India, and he died at Luxborough, in Essex, in the year 1794, as rich in honourable fame, as in that of his inheritance in lands and gold.

HUGHES, HARRY, a native of Shrewsbury, and educated at the renowned grammar school of that town, and afterwards at Oxford, was for the long period of twenty-eight years rector of Haddenham. It has now become a common saying, that the parish priest is the one gentleman whom all classes can look up to in common. Mr. Hughes must have been the true type of so marvellous a friend, for we are told how in addition to his duties as a clergyman, he rebuilt the parochial schools, put up gas works in his village, got a railway station for the use of his parishioners, and established cemeteries for the burial of Churchmen and Dissenters. With the aid of the Sub-dean of Ely he rebuilt the parsonage, and had commenced the restoration of the parish church when he was called away to his reward. Surely this man was a faithful steward, a public benefactor, a true "worthy" whose name should not be allowed to perish. He died in 1875.

HUGHES, THOMAS, a native of Cheshire, matriculated as a pensioner of Queen's College, Cambridge, in November, 1871, and proceeded B.A., 1875-6. On 8 Sep. 1876, he was elected a fellow of his college under a royal mandate. He was probably the author of "The Misfortunes of Arthur, Uther Pendragon's son, Lond., 1837." There are other things attributed to him, but not upon good authority; traditionally he was reported to be "both learned and very pious;" at all events it is manifest that he was an industrious student long before learning gave place to cramming, and at a time when Royal Mandates counted for more than they afterwards did in the National Universities.

HUGHES, THOMAS, born at Chester in the year 1826, has acquired for himself a high reputation as an antiquary, and a local writer upon antiquarian subjects. He was educated at the Chester King's School, and has taken a very warm interest in the restoration of that institution, with a view of giving it a place among the semi-public schools of England. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1865, soon after the publication of his excellent work, entitled "The Strangers' Hand-book to Chester." Many of his antiquarian writings have appeared in the Journal of the Chester Archaeological Society, and for the last twenty years he has been editor of that work. The letter press to "Batenham's Chester Sixty Years Ago," and published in 1878, is from his pen. He was chosen sheriff of his native city in 1873.

HUGHES, WILLIAM, born at Pen-y-Clawdd, Monmouthshire, in 1779, acquired considerable eminence as a civil engineer. He became, when quite a lad, a pupil under Mr. Duncombe, and was engaged by him in the execution of the Ellesmere canal. Mr. Telford afterwards employed him upon the Caledonian canal, and he was also connected with the deepening of the Clyde, the drainage of Lough Neagh, and other public works. Eventually he had the oversight of some heavy works upon the London and Birmingham railway, and for years before his death his character as a safe and able engineer was universally acknowledged. He died at Northampton in 1836.

HULME, HENRY DE, a younger son of a distinguished Cheshire house, who held lands at Upton, on the eastern side of that county, was born there in the year 1353, according to one account, and five years later according to another. He served under Roger Mortimer in Ireland, and was present with him there in 1398, when that great man was killed. He had a daughter Agnes, married to one Robert Downes, of Pott Shrigley, but whether she is the lady who carried the Upton lands to the Downes family, or another lady of the same name, is very doubtful. Henry Hulme did not die till 1412, whereas the Upton

estates are supposed to have passed to the Downes family about 1400. One Henry de Hulme was living at Upton in 1388, and he probably was father to the Agnes mentioned above, for it is said he had one daughter, but no mention is made of a son.

HULSE, HUGH, a noted Cheshire man, was son of David, and grandson of Sir William Hulse. He acted as an advocate in the reign of Richard the Second, and in 1389 was made a judge of the King's Bench, retaining that distinguished position until 1415, when he died. His name frequently occurs in the year books, and his attendance in Parliament as a trier of petitions is regularly recorded, and for several years he served as justice of North Wales. By his wife, Margaret Domville of Moberley, in Cheshire, he had a son Thomas, who succeeded to all his manors in Salop, Hereford, and other shires; but he dying in 1430, all these properties passed to his daughter Margaret, then a minor. There were other sons, one of whom is known to have settled in Berkshire.

HULSE, ROBERT, a great nephew of the last named, was also a Cheshire man by birth. He followed the profession of arms, and maintained the honour of his name and country in doing so. In his later years he settled in Herefordshire, having married a daughter of Henry Salisbury, who was bailiff of Gloucester, in 1426. He is sometimes spoken of as son to Robert Hulse, who had a manor in that county, but that is a mistake, for the manor in question belonged to his cousin Thomas, who died in 1430. As stated in a former notice, Mr. Hulse was an active supporter of the Yorkist Party during the wars of the roses, and was killed at the battle of Towton. He left a daughter, Mary Hulse, who married into the Hakluyt family, and according to some accounts Oliver Hakluyt, of Telton, in Herefordshire, had descended from her.

HUNT, JOSEPH, born at Wellington, Salop, in the year 1791, was a fair sample of the middle class Englishman, who through a deep sense of religion helped to give a new tone to the character of the poorer inhabitants of the country in the early days of the nineteenth century. He desired above all things to preach the gospel, but the Bishops of the Church of England were dead against men of his sort, and thus he became a Methodist. In 1811 he was accepted by the Conference as a probationer in their ministry. "Guileless, unselfish, genial, earnest, and pious," he gained the ear of the masses, and the evangelical, simple message which he had to proclaim to them found its way to their hearts. Thus it was the lewd conversation, and depraved habits of thousands gave place to earnest efforts in a very humble form, to live up to the standard of divine truth; the heedless became thoughtful, the careless anxious to do right, and good took the place of evil. Mr. Hunt, after long and painful labours as a minister, died in peace, 1861, assured that he had done good service to his Master and to his countrymen in his life, and that he should thenceforth enjoy for ever the blessings of the heavenly life above.

HUSEE, RICHARD, supposed to have been born at, or near, Battlefield in Shropshire, is known to us only as the husband of Isolda, his wife, and the grantee of lands whereupon Roger Ive, rector of Albright-Husee, erected, by royal licence, a chapel to be dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and "of which the said Ive, and his heirs were to be masters." There were to be five chaplains attached to this establishment, "Who were to pray for the good estate of the King while he lived, and after his death for his soul, and those of Richard Husee, and Isolda, his wife, and those of his heirs, and finally for the souls of all that fell in

battle on that fatal spot." How innocently these words look upon paper, but "that fatal spot," was the place where Henry IV. and Harry Hotspur met on St. Magdalene's Eve in the year 1403, to try their fortunes, and to settle the deadly quarrel in which England unhappily was then engaged. There is not a school boy in the nation who has not read the defiant words in which Hotspur's messenger addressed the king, and many a brave lad has entered but too fully into their spirit. "We defy thee, thy fantomes, and compliers, as common traytours, oppressors, and confounders of the verie true and right heyres to the crowne of England, which thing we entende with our handes to prove this daie, Almighty God helpyng us." On "that fatal spot" too, the young and gallant *Henry of Monmouth* did "helpe much his father; for though he ware sore wounded in the face with an arrowe, yet he never ceased, either to fyghte where the battaill was most strongest, or to conveye his men where their hartes was most daunted." We are not concerned with the merits of this great fight, but Englishmen love to dwell upon the heroic deeds of the two young Harrys who thus adventured life and all they possessed upon the issue of that one "battail." Thousands of gallant men died there, their true hearts beating wildly within them for their respective leaders, they not only faced death, but they met it with a welcome embrace, threw themselves headlong into its arms, and poured out their blood like water in the hope that their loved country through their sacrifice might secure some measure of happiness and of peace. Who can reade old *Halle's* account of this bloody fray without mixed feelings of anguish and of pride? "The Kyngge hymself slew with his hande that day thirty-seven persons of his enemies. The other of his parte, encouraged by his doynge, fought valiantly, and slew the Lord Percie, called Sir Henry *Hotspure*, the best capitaine on the parte adverse. When his death was knowne the Scottes fled, the Welshmen rann, the traiters were overcome, then neither wooddes letted, nor hills stopped the fearful hartes of them that were vanquished to flee. On the Kynges part were slain sixteen hundred persons, and above five thousand on the other, and as to the *Scottes* few or none escaped alive." So long as the name of *Hotspur* lives, will that of Richard Husee continue a household name among the Shropshire worthies, for upon the spot of land which he so freely gave to perpetuate the remembrance of this great event will meet for ages yet to come untold numbers of Englishmen, who will love to dwell upon all that happened upon "that fatal spot." The great actors in that scene have been gathered to their fathers long ago, but the acts done there remain to this day proudly witnessing to the valour and noble courage of the races, now happily united under the government of a Queen, who in her own person represents them all. We add without offence to any—using poetic licence in doing so—

Now let us all for the Percy praye

To Jesu, Most of Myght,

To bryng his sowle to the blysse of heven,

For he was a gentyll knight.

HUSSEY, WALTER, was born in the city of Chester in the year 1793. Early in life he was brought to a religious decision and experienced a saving change through the gospel. His piety from the beginning of his religious life was both marked and fervent. He entered the Methodist ministry in 1824 and laboured with much acceptance in various circuits for thirteen years, and until his health failed him, when he had to retire from the full work of a circuit and remain content to render what service he could to the denomination by preaching occasionally, and as pastor and class leader. His consistent life, the devoutness of his spirit, and the kindly interest he

took in the sick and in the poor greatly endeared him to many. After much suffering he died at Derby 1869, aged seventy-six. His last charge to the superintendent of the Circuit was—"When the Lord shall take me hence let nothing be said of me in public, save that I lived and died in the happy assurance of God's favour and love, through Christ Jesus."

JULY 9, 1879.

NOTES.

SHROPSHIRE WORD-BOOK.—Miss Jackson says that the *Wall Flower* is called by the name of the "Bloody Warrior" in the Ellesmere district. This, I fancy, is by no means the usual name amongst the common people. In Oswestry the every-day name is "Gilliflower." Miss J. also says that the same flower is known as "Churl" in the colliery districts of Shropshire.

FITZALAN.

Oswestry Words.—In looking over the first part of the capital new "Shropshire Word-Book," I was struck with the fact that there were so few given to the credit of Oswestry; but a closer inspection has shown me that there are several down for other districts that in my time we freely used in the Border town. Of these I may instance (taken at random) by-blow, cats-gallows, cowcumber, cuckoo's meat, dubbin, bullirag, chem (team), dashboard, dolly, &c., &c., &c.

FAR AWAY.

ORIGINAL LETTERS WRITTEN BY THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN.

(May 14, 1879.)

The following letter from Miss Ponsonby to Mrs. Puleston (afterwards Lady Puleston) of Emral, refers to an accident to Lady Butler. The original is preserved at Peniarth, and the date is either 1813 or 1814.

"Plasnewydd, Llangollen, 14 June.

"My dear Mrs. Puleston

"The kindness of your enquiries is worthy of that, which my beloved Lady Eleanor & I have been accustomed—both from Mr. Puleston and yourself—invariably to experience from very early friends in both your lives, and will be remembered with gratitude to the end of ours. I should not have lost a moment in acknowledging them, (though I know you will make every allowance for the heavy demands to which my Time must at present be liable) but that I concluded it would be more comfortable to you—as well as to myself—rather to wait for the certainty of favourable intelligence, than that I should have written before I was quite authorized to send it. But this, being the Fifteenth day from the very dreadful accident—I am empowered to assure you that all is going on, not only beyond expectation, but equal to the most sanguine wishes that could have been formed, of a rapid progress in convalescence. Our dear Lady Eleanor's happy state both of Temper and Constitution seemed really to have astonished Dr. Cartwright (1), as much as they have delighted me by their effects,—as under the Divine Mercy they have successfully combated the otherwise dire effects of a most severe fall—and the union of Contusion Dislocation & fracture, in a single arm. She has in consequence received considerable mitigation of these severe Bandages, from which she suffered inconvenience & pain that could only be equalled by her magnanimity in enduring them,—and the delightful spirits which have never failed of cheering her—and of comforting me—are heightened by a promise

(1) Dr. Cartwright was the father of the late Mr. Peplow Cartwright of Oswestry.

of further emancipation on Thursday; as they likewise are—by experiencing how many friends have been earnest in expressing their anxiety on this sad occasion from various parts of the United Kingdom—amongst whom it would be unnecessary for me, my Dear Mrs. Puleston to dwell upon the high place you possess in our affection and gratitude.

"I trouble you, un-apologised for, with an assurance to our dear Miss Mytton, of our warm and tender anxiety for her speedy and perfect restoration to her own personal comfort, and enjoyment of the society of her friends,—to our dear Miss Pigott—with all that can be expressed of the gratified sense of her kindness, in the present and upon every other occasion—and to yourself & Mr. Puleston—with our thankfullest acknowledgments, and the very best wishes and regards of Lady Eleanor and,—My Dear Mrs. Puleston's ever obliged & affectionate

"SAR: PONSONBY."

QUERIES.

OLD TOWER HALFPENCE.—J. Davies, a mercer and draper, residing at the corner of Ox-lane, near the Butter-cross, Shrewsbury, announced in Jan. 1803 that he would take Old Tower Half-pence in exchange for goods, for one month only, at the rate of "thirteen pence to the shilling: the penny being for the carriage." What were Old Tower-halfpence? SCROBBES BYRIG.

BENEFIT CONCERT AT WEM.—Early in 1805 a "Concert and Ball, for the benefit of an Invalid," was announced to take place at Wem. The names of managers attached to the advertisement were, "the Rev. Ed. T. Steward, and Owen Roberts, Esq." Was there anything peculiar in the case to call for sympathy on such a novel scale? And who was Mr. Owen Roberts? I have been told that he was in some way connected with Oswestry, and that a daughter of his performed in the first charitable amateur dramatic performance held in Wem under the management of the Young Roscius after he retired from the stage. Mr. Owen Roberts was an active officer in the Wem Volunteer Company early in this century. G. Wem, Salop.

REPLIES.

AN INSCRIPTION AT MACHYNLLETH. (July 2, 1879).—I have never seen the inscription Mr. EVANS copies, but with a very trifling alteration it would become—

1623. J. OWEN PUGH ET UXOR.

BONWM.

FREEDOM OF BOROUGHES (June 21, 1876).—At a meeting of the Corporation of Shrewsbury held on Monday, March 26, 1804, the Freedom of the Borough was unanimously voted to Captain Edward William Campbell Owen, of the Immortalite frigate of forty-four guns, then lying at Deal, for his gallant conduct during the existing and previous war. His father (Capt. William Owen) was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1775.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

THE OLD SCREEN, &c., AT NEWTOWN (May 7, 1879).—I find the following note in *Arch. Cam.*, No. XV. (July, 1849):—"We are informed that the ancient screenwork of Abbey Cwmhir, which was removed to the old church of Newtown in Montgomeryshire, is now to be sold." Then follows a suggestion that the screen should be bought for Llandaff or Bangor Cathedral. It will be observed that at this period the story, in all probability false, of the removal of the screen from Cwmhir Abbey, was accepted even by the editors of the *Archæologia*.

In Jan., 1850 (See *Bye-gones*, June 5, 1878) "W," whose signature many readers will recognize, "hopes attention will be paid to this sad matter" of the sale of the screen; and adds—"There are in the same church an altar, the slab of which is of veined marble, and an altar-piece painted and presented by Dyer the poet, the subject being the Last Supper. What is to become of them, and the monuments, and vaults, and their contents, within the venerable edifice which is about to be left to fate? The framers of the Church Building Acts were sadly remiss in not providing that in every case, and at whatever sacrifice, the old site should be occupied by the new church, which would have prevented the revolting desecration which will take place in this instance and in similar ones." To this the editors add a note, expressing their opinion, under correction, that the closing and abandoning, much more the destroying, of any parochial church, without special faculty from the Bishop, is illegal. In October, 1854 (New Series, No. XX), I find a short paper on the old church by the present Bishop of St. David's. The writer gives a description of the building, which "in all probability" will soon "have ceased to exist," and then mentions—1st, the Font, "an octagonal basin having its sides adorned with rudely-executed quatrefoils"; which at the present day is said to be lying in a stone-mason's yard! 2nd, the Rood Screen, "an extremely elaborate specimen of its class, rich with carving, and with gold and colour," which Mr. Basil Jones did not suppose ever came from Abbey Cwmhir. The notion of selling the screen seems to have been abandoned before 1854, and its removal to the new church was then suggested, but, the writer of the paper says, "these are not altogether days (he was writing a quarter of a century ago!) for screens and rood lofts, and although one would gladly see so beautiful a structure preserved in a proper place, the satisfaction would be considerably diminished if it should prove impossible to do so (*sic*) without interfering with the exigencies of divine worship." The rood screen is now "packed up" ready for use when (?) the old church is rebuilt; but what has become of—3. "the extraordinary Wooden Arcade," which, "though less beautiful, is much more curious." Is this also packed up, or is it, like the Font, lying neglected in somebody's yard, or has it been used for firewood? To Mr. Basil Jones's list has to be added—4, the Altar with Dyer's Altar-piece. Where is that also? The Rector, or some one else connected with the church, will be conferring a favour upon Churchmen and Antiquaries if he will answer these questions. E.

[Mr. J. P. Hylton Dyer Longstaffe, writing to *Mont: Coll:* 1878, about "John Dyer as a Painter," says, "In Newtown Church there was an altar-piece by Dyer, the subject being the Last Supper. The Terrier of 1791 mentions the name of the painter. In *Arch: Camb:* 1850, this is stated to have been presented by Dyer; but the rector [the Rev. John Edwards], who ought to know, says that the painting, though by Dyer, was presented by Sir John Pryce, Bart., of Newtown Hall, in 1727, and that when the church was closed . . . it was removed to the Rectory."—Ed.]

Last week some workmen employed at Bangor Cathedral discovered under the floor of the chapter room a slab bearing the following inscription—"Hic jacet Eva quae fuit uxor . . . wel . . . cujus animæ propitiator Deus." It is said that the wife of an owner of the Penrhyn estate in the 14th century bore this name. The slab was covered by about eighteen inches of rubbish.

RAINFALL AT WYNNSTAY.—During the month of June just passed, the register of rainfall at Wynnstay has shown that considerably more rain has fallen this year than in any corresponding year for the last ten.

THE BISHOP OF BEDFORD.

(From the *Oswestry Advertiser*.)

WE have at last the pleasure, not unmixed with regret, of announcing that the Rev. W. WALSHAM HOW has been appointed Suffragan Bishop of Bedford. We stated several weeks ago that two names had been selected by the Bishop of LONDON for submission to the QUEEN, and that, as Mr. HOW's stood first, he would in all probability, according to custom, be selected by HER MAJESTY for the new ecclesiastical post. The delay in making, or at any rate in announcing, the selection has been unusually long, but on Saturday intelligence was received that the Rector of WHITTINGTON had been chosen to take the episcopal charge of a large and densely populated district in the East of London. The title of the new BISHOP is altogether misleading, and arises, as we have already explained, from the limitations of the Act of HENRY VIII. under which the appointment is made. The Act only gives power to select one of a small number of places as the title of the BISHOP, and none of those places would have supplied a more appropriate designation than the one which has been fixed upon. It is to be regretted that so misleading an anomaly could not be avoided, but we understand the legislative difficulties in the way were too serious to be lightly encountered. And so it comes to pass that the Bishop of East London, for that is what Mr. How will really be, will be called the Bishop of BEDFORD. If there are to be any more appointments under the Act of HENRY VIII., it is to be hoped the repetition of so great an absurdity will be prevented. The last Bishop of Bedford, we may note, was also Bishop Suffragan of London—Bishop HODGKIN, one of the prelates who consecrated Archbishop PARKER in the reign of ELIZABETH; since which time there has been no Suffragan of London and no Bishop of Bedford.

We understand that a definite district in the East of London, bounded westward by the City, Islington, and Highbury, and eastward by the river Lea, will be assigned to the SUFFRAGAN BISHOP. This district is about six miles in length from north to south, and scarcely four miles in breadth, the size of many a rural parish, but it has a vast population—more than four times as great as that of the whole Diocese of St. Asaph, which only contains about a quarter of a million. Poplar, Limehouse, the Isle of Dogs, Stepney, Spitalfields, Bethnal Green, Hoxton, Bow, Hackney, Stoke Newington, Clapton, and other places, all of which would rank as large towns out of the metropolis, are included in the proposed sub-diocese. Many of our readers have recently gathered fresh information of the condition of the east-end parishes from the letters and leaders that have appeared in the *Times*. In a word, we may describe the district as teeming with people who are almost as much removed from Christian influences as savages in the wilds of Africa, and the administration of the new sub-diocese will require, not only or chiefly hard work, but a diligent study of character, and a delicate tact, without which bishops will be multiplied and churches increased in vain. It is not always direct efforts to christianize the people that are the most successful, and, in looking forward with interest to the result of Mr. How's appointment, we are glad to recollect that he is far removed from those among the clergy who believe only in one method of action, but, on the contrary, has always shown himself ready to assist in endeavours to help his fellow-men in many diverse ways. Indeed a man who is endowed with poetic feeling, and a

keen interest in all living things, is not likely to fail in the way we have hinted at. Bishop How, we may be sure, will approach the uncivilized inhabitants of his new diocese ready to take advantage of any inclination for better things, even when what he esteems the best of all cannot be pushed prominently to the front.

The SUFFRAGAN BISHOP is to have the patronage of all the livings within the district at present in the patronage of the Bishop of LONDON. There are a good many of these livings, mostly of the value of £300 a year, with populations ranging from 4,000 to 10,000, and no gentry to help either with money or, what is often more valuable, advice and sympathy. The post will be endowed by the City living of St. Andrew's Undershaft, which, like many other parishes in the City, has a very small population but a very good income; and we understand that a generous City merchant, who has long been urging the necessity of further episcopal superintendence for East London, has placed a very good house of his at Upper Clapton at the disposal of the SUFFRAGAN BISHOP, at least for two or three years.

Nothing is yet arranged as to the date of Mr. How's consecration, but by the express words of the heading of the consecration service in the Prayer Book, it must be on a Sunday or Holy Day, and it is customary to select a Saint's Day falling on a week day. St. James's Day, July 25th, was suggested by the Bishop of LONDON, but it is now probable the preliminary business may not be accomplished in time to allow of so early a date. If the consecration cannot be arranged for the 25th of July, either a Sunday must be chosen or the ceremony must be deferred until Michaelmas Day.

Mr. How has been Rector of Whittington for twenty-eight years—a long period; yet, so identified is the parish with the present rector, that many of our readers will be surprised to learn he only came there in 1851. The previous incumbent, Mr. LLOYD, died on the 24th of July in that year, and Mr. How was then appointed to the living. During his residence many improvements have been made in the parish. In 1854 National Schools were built. In 1857 a new cemetery was consecrated; and in 1860 open seats were substituted, by the liberality of the RECTOR, for several of the old pews in the nave. In the following year Mr. How rebuilt the chancel at a cost of £165, and the north chancel aisle was at the same time added, the expense being met by subscriptions. In 1871 all the pews were swept away, and the expense, with the exception of £90, was again borne by Mr. How. The church at Frankton, which served a new ecclesiastical district, and Ebnal Chapel, have also been erected during Mr. How's residence. But Mr. How's religious activities have not been confined within the church walls, for he has sought to reach the remoter parts of his parish, by holding cottage meetings and bringing the preaching of Christianity into the homes of the people, who, we believe, will sorely miss the pastor who has made himself their friend. His sermons have been characterized by an admirable simplicity, both of matter and language, which fitted them for the congregation of a rural parish, and no one who heard them could fail to be impressed by the earnest tone of the preacher. The services have been conducted with what the generality of intelligent Churchmen would consider a loyal obedience to the requirements of the Anglican Communion, with no repellent baldness on one hand, and no excessive ritual on the other. Indeed, Mr. How occupies a peculiarly happy position for a bishop, seeing that he can be claimed by no party in the Church. High, Broad, and Low, may all find points of sympathy with him, while nobody would attempt to describe him as belonging to any one of them. He is a minister of the

Church of England, and has never made himself a partizan within her comprehensive borders. Mr. How is well known and esteemed as a preacher in various parts of the country, and has conducted missions at Manchester and elsewhere, as well as "Quiet Days" and "Retreats" for the clergy.

Living near Oswestry, Mr. How has naturally become associated with the town, and many of its institutions. The Literary Institute found in him one of its earliest and most valued supporters, and few who heard his singularly graceful address at the opening of the Public Hall can fail to remember it. Still earlier, when the Institute had its headquarters elsewhere, and was glad to borrow the National School for occasional addresses, Mr. How was one of its lecturers, and we have before us as we write a lecture on Books, full of gay wisdom, as a lecture should be. Afterwards, when the Church of England Young Men's Society was established at the Victoria Rooms, Mr. How also gave his assistance there; and the Oswestry Naturalists' Field Club has always looked up to him as a leader, in whose absence the excursions are never anything like so pleasant or so profitable. Of late years, increasing demands upon his time, and absence from home, have prevented Mr. How from taking much part in public or semi-public gatherings; and we have often wished for the intellectual stimulus, which the life of the town has sorely needed, and which it once derived from addresses like Mr. How's. How great the loss will be when he has removed from amongst us, our readers can judge.

Mr. How belongs to an old Cumberland family; and his grandfather was for many years rector of Workington, in that county. He graduated at Wadham College, Oxford, in 1845, and in the following year was ordained by the Bishop of Worcester and licensed to the curacy of St. George's, Kidderminster. His next curacy was that of the Holy Cross, Shrewsbury, which he held from 1848 to 1851, when he became rector of Whittington. In 1849 he married FRANCES ANNE, daughter of the Rev. HENRY DOUGLAS, canon of Durham, and only a week or two ago we reported the marriage of his eldest surviving son, the rector of Evershot, Dorset. In 1852 he was appointed diocesan inspector of schools for St. Asaph, and in the following year rural dean of Oswestry. In 1860 the Bishop of St. ASAPH, Dr. SHORT, appointed Mr. How to an honorary canonry in his cathedral, and in 1877 Dr. HUGHES nominated him to the office of chancellor. Since 1869 he has been a member of Convocation as proctor for the clergy of the diocese with which he has been so long connected; and he has taken part in the debates in the Jerusalem Chamber. By his writings the new BISHOP has become widely known, his "Pastor in Parochia," a practical manual for the clergy, having passed through twelve editions; and his "Plain Words" and other volumes of sermons have had a large circulation. He is also the writer of a Commentary on the Four Gospels; and one of his publications, a book of poems called "Three All Saints' Summers" contains some descriptive pieces written amongst the Welsh mountains, which have a true, poetic flavour. But Mr. How's books do not exhaust his contributions to literature. In our own columns, from time to time, our readers have been able to see the range of his powers from ecclesiastical controversy to humorous verse; and his papers on the Botany of Barmouth and the Great Orme's Head are familiar to many through the pages of the "Gossiping Guide to Wales."

In hymnology Mr. How's name is familiar among Dissenters as well as Churchmen, for several of his hymns appear in Nonconformist hymn-books, and two or three, in Dr. ALLON'S Supplement, are in use in Congregational

worship in Oswestry. He is one of the editors of "Church Hymns," and took part in preparing for the press the book of tunes which was edited by ARTHUR SULLIVAN.

The presentation to the living of Whittington, which is put down in the clerical directory at nearly £1,000 and a house, is in the hands of Col. LLOYD of Aston.

THE consecration of the Rev. W. WALSHAM HOW as Suffragan Bishop of Bedford has been fixed for St. James's Day, July 25th, when the ceremony will be performed in St. Paul's Cathedral. The event will be one of considerable interest, for four bishops are to be consecrated at the same service—the Bishop Elect of JERUSALEM and two others, one for British Columbia and the other for Jamaica, besides the Bishop of BEDFORD.

On the previous day Mr. How will be instituted and inducted to the living of St. Andrew's Undershaft. It was on the same day of the month, July 24th, that his predecessor at Whittington, the late Rev. C. A. A. LLOYD, died in 1851; so that Mr. How will have been rector of that parish for exactly twenty eight years. On the Sunday following the new BISHOP will conduct the service in the church of St. Andrew's Undershaft both morning and afternoon, after which he hopes to return for some weeks to Whittington. The church of St. Andrew situated in Leadenhall-street, was one of the edifices which escaped destruction by the Great Fire. It was newly built by the parishioners in 1520; and during Mr. BLOMFIELD'S incumbency the interior was handsomely restored. Among its monuments the most noteworthy is that of STOW, the chronicler of ancient London.

The Bishop of LONDON proposes to confer upon Mr. How the Prebendal Stall of Brondesbury in St. Paul's Cathedral, held by Mr. BLOMFIELD, the late rector of St. Andrew's Undershaft. The post is what is called an honorary canonry, having no emolument, but it gives the possessor a seat in the "Greater Chapter" of the Cathedral. The Prebend has been held in past days by many eminent men.

We may supplement our biographical notice of last week by saying that Mr. How is a son of the late Mr. WILLIAM WYBERG How of Shrewsbury, and was born in that town on the 13th of December, 1823. He was educated at Shrewsbury School, but Professor KENNEDY is inaccurate in stating, in a letter to the *Times*, that the new Bishop "narrowly missed a different career, having had a very close contest for an Indian writership offered by Sir R. Jenkins." Mr. How, we believe, did not engage in the competition. Professor KENNEDY, in the same letter, supplies an interesting piece of information: that the Bishop of BEDFORD will be the fourth Salopian among living English Bishops. The other prelates to whom the Professor refers are the Archbishop of YORK and the Bishops of MANCHESTER and St. DAVID'S, all of whom received their early education at Shrewsbury School.

Quoting from Mr. KITTERMASTER'S "Shropshire Arms and Lineages" mention has been made of the name of JOHN HOWE (1) in connection with the Rector of Whittington; but we believe Mr. KITTERMASTER is mistaken, for Mr. How's family cannot claim descent from the well-known Puritan divine.

The *Guardian* is quite misinformed respecting the endowment of the Bishopric. As we have before stated, the endowment consists of the income of the Rectory of St Andrew's Undershaft (placed in the church directories at £2,000), and it is not to be increased by any addition

(1) See *Bye-gones*, 1874-5, pages 38 and 294, for reference to "John Howe's Pulpit" in Whittington Independent Chapel, and the Rev. W. Walsham How's descent from the celebrated Puritan.

from other sources. The same paper (generally so accurate) has also accepted an erroneous statement that Mr. FOSTER, the zealous and generous lay Churchman who has so strongly pressed for a bishop for East London, has bought a house for the Bishop. The fact is as we stated last week. Mr. FOSTER has lent a house of his own for two or three years, possibly thinking that experience may show a more central position to be desirable.

JULY 16, 1879.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE VOLUNTEER LEGION. — Anyone who has access to files of newspapers for the dates in question, or who can otherwise supply the information, will oblige if they will kindly send particulars of a presentation to the Right Hon. Charles W. W. Wynn on the disbandment of this force in 1899, and of a presentation of Chandelier to the same gentleman in 1823, on the disbandment of the First Regiment of (Mont.) Yeomanry.

NOTES.

WELSH NAMES OF PLACES. — Tourists who overrun Wales every summer go home with their note books full of marvelous combinations of letters which they fondly believe comprise the names of Welsh villages. In nine cases out of ten they add to the names unnecessary appendages, and in all cases omit—where the names are really compound words—to use hyphens; or use them wrongly. That we have sundry jaw-breakers for Saxons nobody can deny, but, take for instance, such a name as

“Llanfaircaereinion,”

which was given to me as a specimen the other day. Divide it, and get a Welshman to pronounce it, and it becomes musical.

“Llanfair-caer-einion”

is certainly less incomprehensible when presented in this way. A glance over any Gazetteer would reveal plenty of English names of places, which would not only puzzle a foreigner, but a native, if written without a break. For instance—

“Westburyupontrym;”

Now suppose we divided this, as tourists sometimes serve our Welsh names, for the sake of effect; and wrote—

“Westb-uryu-pont-rym,”

could you conceive a more awkward word in Wales? But write it

“Westbury-upon-trym,”

as in the Gazetteers, and it becomes tangible.

TAFFY.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(June 18, 1879).

The following is the brief chronicle preserved of the Charters, &c., in possession of the Corporation at the beginning of the 17th century:—

m'd. that the 4 day of December 1605 we Richard Drevhurst & Richard Lloyd gent bayliffs have received unto our custody the Charters following viz.

v'o Charters

a booke of Constitution

A confession of our liberties upon a quorant Brought/

Ite. one Charter of Thomas Earle of Arundell

Ite. one other of William Earle of Arundell

Ite. Ano rder from the Starre chamber

The Towne Seale

Ite. j st. yard of Eyrne

Ite. j Elle of Eyrne

Ite. one seale w'th James R.

Ite. one other seale w'th the flowerdeluse.

ED.

QUERIES.

WELSH LITERATURE.—I have a copy of a Welsh translation of the Psalms into metre, preceded by a similar metrical translation of the Te Deum, Nunc Dimittis, and Magnificat. It is printed in black letter, and bound in wood. Unfortunately the title page is missing. Is this a known edition of the Psalter, and what is its date? I have also a copy of a Welsh translation of the meditations of Thomas a Kempis “Gan H. O. Gwennydog ym Mon, Esq.” It is prefaced by an engraving entitled “Christ Crucified, sold by Thos. Durston in Shrewsbury.” At the end of the book is a list of Welsh books printed by “Thomas Durston, Printer and Book-seller, in Shoemaker Row in Shrewsbury.” There is no date, but judging from some written dates I should imagine the book was printed about 1690. Is anything known of Durston as a publisher, as he seems to have been an enterprising man? W. H.

[Durston was made a freeman of a Shrewsbury Guild in 1714; and he was the publisher of several Welsh books, amongst others some by the Rev. J. Jones, who was a clergyman at Llangynog in 1743. In a note on “Sion Rhydderch” (May 8, 1878), there were some printer's errors in connection with Durston. In one we made it appear that he was called “Thruston” in *Llyfryddiaeth*, and we gave as a reference to that book pages 354-5, instead of 374-5.—ED.]

WYLE COP.—As far back as 1873, the significance of this term was discussed in *Bye-gones*. “Wyle Cop” farm in Montgomeryshire (which contains a field, near the house, on which are some remains of earthworks) was held, by one correspondent, to mean “Wyle's Earth-works,” and “Wyle Cop” in Shrewsbury was supposed by another to mean the Top of the Wyle, from an old Saxon word “Coppe.” The Rev. Mackenzie Walcott, in *Shreds and Patches* for June 25, says (referring to “Early Shrewsbury”), “Cop certainly is the synonym of Pen. Can Wyle represent the Mole or Gwern? We have it as the name of a stream in the Wyle of Wiltshire, Wilton, &c., just as Clun reappears in the Essex ‘Colne.’ Is this the clue to unravel the etymological puzzle in Wyle Cop?” Perhaps some contributor to *Bye-gones* will kindly offer an opinion? I note that Halliwell, in his *Dict. of Archaic and Prov. Words*, gives as one meaning of “Cop” the following:—“A mound or bank; a heap of anything.” This is a North-country signification. Mr. Hamer does not give the word in his collection of those used in Llanidloes district, although the Wyle-cop farm referred to above is at Llanwnnog in the same county. NEMO.

REPLIES.

SMALL NOTES (Feb. 13, 20, 1878).—At these dates county meetings held in 1828, to agitate against the Bill for the suppression of pound and guinea notes were referred to in *Bye-gones*. It was held that the extinction of small notes would have the effect of reducing the income of the landowner 25 per cent. Earlier in the century it would seem that the county gentry held a different opinion, for I have just met with a newspaper paragraph of Jan. 31, 1805, announcing a county meeting to be held at Carmarthen “for the purpose of taking into consideration the most effectual mode of suppressing the circulation of all notes under Five-pounds, except those of the Bank of England.” ARGUS.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (July 2, 1879).—In 1804 “*The Traveller*: London, Oxford, Birmingham, and Shrewsbury New Light Coach,” set out from the Raven and Bell, Shrewsbury, four days a week to London, returning in time to meet Coaches to and from “Oswestry, Wrexham, Chester, Welch-pool, Bangor, and all parts of

North Wales." "The elegant coach called the *Ancient Briton*" did the same journey, from the Unicorn Inn, Shrewsbury; and from the same office there was "the Telegraph Post-coach, called the *Prince of Wales*," also "the Union Post-coach to Chester" and "the *Friendship* Post-coach to Welshpool." Readers will note that the rival Coach offices spell Welshpool differently. JEHU.

AUTHORSHIP OF AN OLD WELSH HYMN (June 20, 1879).—There cannot, I think, be any serious doubt as to the authorship of the hymn beginning—

Myfi yw'r Adgyfodiad mawr.

Archdeacon Prys's metrical version of the Psalms appeared for the first time at the end of the Prayer Book published in 1621, and this was the only edition which appeared in his life-time. At the end of the singing Psalms in that edition (a perfect copy of which I inspected within the last few days) follow the *Emynau*, containing *Veni Creator, Te Deum*, and other hymns generally found appended to Prys's version of the Psalms; but the hymn in question is not among them, neither is *Galarriad Pechadur* ("Na thro dy wyneb, Arglwydd glân"), the latter being the composition of Rowland Vaughan of Caergai, translator of *Yr Ymarfer o Dduwioleab* (1630). This hymn was printed for the first time among the versions of Prys, as we now find it, in the folio edition of the Prayer Book which appeared in 1710, and which, as is well known, was edited by Ellis Wynne. No one will find this hymn printed, or referred to, previous to that date. As to the internal evidence, it may be remarked that Ellis Wynne here, as in *Bardd Cwsg*, has proved himself an excellent imitator; but Edmund Prys, who thought it necessary to offer an explanation if not an apology for employing *y* to rhyme with *u* in the word *Duw*, would never have been guilty of using some of the rhymes which occur in this hymn; such as *hun* and *dyn* (twice), *cudd* and *Gwaredydd*, *drud* and *byd*; and we never find them in the Psalms, at least in the earlier editions of them. Some two centuries later, Iolo Morganwg, treading in the footsteps of the Archdeacon, strictly adhered to the same rigid rule. These considerations, coupled with the fact that Edward Wynne, in 1755, published it as the undoubted work of his father, ought, one would think, to decide the question as to the authorship of this old hymn. D.S.E.

OLD FOLKS (Feb. 26, 1879).—*Llanefydd*, near Denbigh.—'1. Whom one nuptial bed did containe for 80 years do here remaine. Here lieth the body of Elin, wife of Iohn Owen, who died the 25 day of March, 1659. Here lieth the body of Iohn Owen, who died the 23 day of August, 1659. 2. They lived amicably together in matrimony 70 years. Here lyeth the body of Catherine Davies, the wife of Edward Iones, who was buried the 27 day of May, 1708, aged 91 years. Here the body of Edward Iones, son of Iohn-Ap-David, Gent., lyeth, who was buried the 14 day of May, 1708, aged 91 years.'

CURRENT NOTES.

Nearly £600 has been collected towards the foundation at the University College of Wales of a scholarship in memory of the late Rev. Robert Ellis (Cynddelw), Baptist minister, Carnarvon.

THE LATE SIR THOMAS MYDDELTON BIDDULPH.—A massive brass to the memory of the late Sir Thomas Myddelton Biddulph, the keeper of Her Majesty's privy purse, has been placed in the parish church of Holy Trinity, Windsor. This monument has been subscribed for by such of the officers of the 1st Life Guards as served with Sir Thomas in that regiment, and by whom the late general was greatly respected and beloved.

A "Celtic Society" has been founded in Paris, to serve as a rallying point for the writers and artists of Brittany and the friends of Celtic studies. The first monthly dinner took place on June 18, M. Ernest Renan in the chair.

MEMORIAL WINDOW.—The friends of the late Mr. A. Fletcher Jones have placed a memorial window in the chapel of Oswestry Grammar School, where he was educated. The subject is the well-known incident of Nathaniel under the fig tree, with the appropriate text, "Behold an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile." The melancholy circumstances attending the death of Mr. Jones will be still fresh in the minds of the residents in Oswestry, for the amiability of his character and the kindness of his disposition had endeared him not only to his immediate associates, but also to all with whom he was brought in contact. The window is one of the best specimens of Messrs. Hardman and Co.'s, of Birmingham.

STRAY NOTES.

A VETERAN WELSH CURATE.—A clergyman in the neighbourhood of Caermarthen, who lived into this century, reckoned that up to the end of 1804, at which period he had completed 53 years in the curacy, he had married 1,025 couples, christened 4,095 children, and buried 2,587 persons.

THE WEATHER.—In October, 1805, it was stated in the Shrewsbury papers that the abundance of wasps that year was unprecedented. At Reading a hog'shead of sugar was robbed to the amount of 42 lbs. by them in four days. It was also remarked that "since the years 1775, 1785, 1788, and 1798, there had not been such a deficiency of water, in some districts, as lately." In some places cattle had to be driven miles to get water.

THE METHODIST CHAPEL AT SHREWSBURY.—The art of advertising does not seem to have arrived at any very great proficiency in our county early in this century, if we may take the following paragraph (from the *Journal* of Aug. 14, 1805,) as a sample:—"We hear that the new Methodist Chapel on St. John's Hill will be opened at half-past ten o'clock on Sunday next, when a sermon will be preached on the occasion."

THE YOUNG ROSCIUS.—Early in this century the young Salopian, Henry Betty, was all the rage as an actor. The papers of the period gave him a sly poke by the following paragraph:—"When Baddeley bequeathed a plumb-cake to the actors of Drury Lane Theatre, he probably foresaw that the stage would one day or other be occupied by children, who would contend for sweetmeats as others do for salaries."

THE LATE LORD HARLECH.—Lines written extempore at Pockington, on the Birth-Day of John Ralph Ormsby Gore, Esq. Published in the report of the coming of age festivities at Oswestry, in the *Salopian Journal*, of June 7, 1837.

Boed hawddfyd, gwynfyd I Gore,

Tra ho siriol, Haul a Ser,

Llwydd yw daith, ar fôr, neu dir

Diwedd Euraid, efo'r Ior. E. B. Oswallt.

A GREAT STORM.—The papers of 1805 record a tremendous storm in the Border Counties on July 23 of that year. At Welshpool and the neighbourhood the rain fell in torrents "Such as have not been remembered by the oldest person living;" its violence was so great as to "beat down a man going thro' the Park at Powis Castle." At Wellington the rain obstructed the foot passengers in the streets, so that it was almost impossible to get along. In some places the rain was accompanied by thunder and lightning.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(July 2. 1879.)

INCE, ROBERT, was born in the neighbourhood of Chester in the year 1564, and is supposed to have descended from a family of the same name who had owned lands at a place called Ince, within the present hundred of Wirral. He served in the wars of the Low Countries when a very young man, and managed to gain the good will of the celebrated Roger Williams, who afterwards wrote an account of "The Actions in the Low Countries." Griffith Williams, chaplain to Philip, Earl of Montgomery, was a friend of his, and in a Welsh manuscript of the sixteenth century the two are spoken of as of kindred, Mr. Ince having married into Mr. Williams's family. Our worthy was devoted to the reformed religion, and assisted in money to print some of the earliest religious works published in the Cambrian tongue. He died in Carnarvonshire, 1635, and according to some writers his children settled at Chester as merchants.

INCE, WILLIAM, a Cheshire man, who filled the office of mayor at Chester, in the year 1642, had fallen upon troublous times, for the quarrel between Charles the First and the Parliament had then acquired serious proportions. Chester was a loyal city, and Sir Nicholas Byron, a soldier of eminence, had been commissioned to hold it for the king. Sir William Brereton was actively employed on the other side, and Mr. Ince had to take steps as Mayor to induce the inhabitants to combine for the purposes of defence. He did his duty in a noble manner, and the citizens followed his lead with alacrity. How much they suffered in the royal cause is matter of history, and without entering upon the merits of the dispute we may readily accord to this gentleman and his followers the full meed of praise which they so richly deserved.

IRELAND, DAVID, supposed to have been born at Albrighton, in Shropshire, was ancestor to another Salopian worthy of the same name, already mentioned. This gentleman's family had long been connected with Shrewsbury, and he himself became an alderman of that town, and was a benefactor to her charities, particularly to St. Chad's Alms Houses, which had been erected in 1409, by Bennet Tipton. Mr. Ireland was engaged in trade, but has the credit of being an educated man, and somewhat of an antiquary. The late Sir J. B. Williams of Shrewsbury, had some local records in his possession which were attributed to this gentleman, they were curious, but not valuable, most of them having been copied from earlier writings by other hands. The time of his death is uncertain.

IRELAND, JAMES, grandson to the last named, was born at or near Shrewsbury, and for some years he lived at Ludlow in the practice of the law. He was evidently very well versed in the ancient forms of conveyancing, and pleading, as is attested by a parcel of old documents drawn up by his own hand. The tradition is that he removed to London, where he remained for the rest of his life, and that he acquired fame and wealth in the pursuit of his profession. A son of his, Robert Ireland, was living in 1524, but he does not appear to have been connected with the Border Counties at all.

IRELAND, JOHN, is said to have been born at Hereford, where his father was governor of the prison. He received the early part of his education at the College School there, and completed his studies at Oriel College, Oxford. He became a clergyman, and proceeded in due time to his D.D. degree. His first work was published in 1796—"Five Discourses, containing certain Arguments for and against the Reception of Christianity by the Ancient Jews

and Gauls." This brought him into notice, and he eventually obtained the deanery of Westminster. Several other works from his pen have been published, among them "Paganism and Christianity Compared," in a series of lectures to the King's scholars at Westminster.

IVOR-HAEL. In every age and country men stand out upon the page of history dignified with a reputation for some peculiar goodness that will last for all times. Monmouthshire can boast of "Ivor the generous," who flourished as lord of Maesaleg, y Wenallt and Gwerngleppa, in the early days of the fourteenth century, and was second son of Llewelyn ab Ivor, ap Llywelyn ab Bledri, by Angharad, the daughter of Sir Morgan ab Meredydd, a descendant of Rhys ab Tewdwr, Prince of South Wales. He was distinguished for his open-handed and prodigal generosity, his social virtues, and the genial spirit he ever displayed to everything that was national in aim, character, or tendency. Dafydd ap Gwilym, the prince of Welsh poets, found in him a patron and a friend, and when he died he sang a touching "lament" to his memory in language which will always command the sympathy of the Welsh:—

From dewy lawns I'll pluck the rose,
With every fragrant flower that blows;
The earliest promise of the spring
To Ivor's honoured grace I'll bring:
This humble rite shall oft be paid
To deck the spot where he is laid—
To show how much for him I mourn,
How much I weep o'er Ivor's Urn.

He died childless, and his vast possessions in Monmouthshire passed to his nephew, Llewelyn ap Morgan, and through him to the Morgans of Tredegar, a family now represented by Lord Tredegar. To do that family justice, they have well maintained the reputation of Ivor by acts of generosity and patriotism of no common kind—fitting tributes to the memory of the founder of their great house, the hero and darling of Cambrian minstrels.

JULY 23, 1879.

NOTES.

LEASING. — Modern Salopian Newspapers, I fancy, would not use this old word as part of their vocabulary, at any rate unaccompanied by inverted commas each side of it. Time was when it was otherwise, as the following extract from the *Salopian Journal* of Sep. 19, 1804, will shew:—"As the waggoner of Mr. Menlove, of Wakley, near Ellesmere, was walking backwards and whipping one of the horses in the harvest field, a few days since, his feet got entangled in some leasing, which threw him down, and the wheels passing over him he was killed on the spot." TYPO.

THOMAS MYNDE, ABBOT OF SHREWSBURY.—The *Salopian Journal* of Sep. 9, 1846, says there is now in the possession of Mr. Thomas Hardwicke, of Tasley Farm, near Bridgnorth, a most curious antique bedstead, of carved oak, formerly belonging to one "Thomas Mynde, an abbot of Shrewsbury in 1481." At the head "are two arched recesses, one being the representation of Our Saviour instituting the Sacrament, the other Our Saviour on the Cross." This had previously been the property of the well-known antiquary, Mr. W. Hardwicke, solicitor, of Bridgnorth. The bed is described as so high that it would require a flight of steps to ascend it, and to stand on massive pillars, carved in bold relief. Its top was surrounded by a cornice formed of rosettes and shields alternately. A.R.P.

QUERIES.

PHILLIPS, THE SHREWSBURY HISTORIAN. Mr. Salisbury includes the above in his *Salopian Worthies*, and says his book may be looked upon as "the foundation of many local histories." I have heard somewhere that Phillips was not the real author of the history that goes by his name; but that all he did was to add to a MS. that came into his possession. How far is this so?

R. ROSSE TEWK, B.A.

"NIMROD" AT YNYSYMAENGWYN.—In which of the published works of Mr. Apperley did he describe his visits to this place, in old Mr. Edward Corbet's time?

NEMO.

LEAD MINE AT LLANIDLOES.—It is on record that great rejoicings took place at Llanidloes and neighbourhood on Aug. 1, 1805, on account of the discovery of a very valuable lead mine, near the surface of the ground; on the estate of Sir Edward Price Lloyd, Bart. The mine was situated about two miles from Llanidloes, on the Llandinam road. Is the mine still in existence, and what is it called?

H.B.

REPLIES.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR (July 2, 1879).—There is but one perfect copy of it, which is at Wynnstay: I mean in so far as the work was completed, which it never was. It was printed at Milan. Sir Watkin Williams Wynn had three copies, and the late Mr. C. Williams Wynn had one given to him by "Tegid" (Mr. Jones of Ch. Ch.). These four copies were all imperfect, and out of them I made up the perfect copy now at Wynnstay, and the remaining sheets were given to me. There is a copy in the British Museum, all but perfect, but it wants a Table.

W.

[Another week we hope to give copy of a correspondence between the late Mr. C. Williams Wynn and "Tegid" on the contents of the work, and some notes on the Wynnstay copy by Mr. W. W. E. Wynne of Peniarth.—Ed.]

LLANYCIL CHURCH (June 25, 1879).—The inscription mentioned by BOILEAU is in memory of John Vaughan, Esqre., of Cefn Bodig, M.P. for Merionethshire in 1654; who, like the Vaughans of Llwydiarth, bore the arms of Ririd Vlaidd. He was buried at Llanycil church in 1671. The motto means in English "Fame is more lasting than life." Let us hope that the committee for the Reparation (not "Restoration," save the mark!) of this old church will appreciate the legend and preserve the mural tablet in situ.

E.B.

BOILEAU only gives the legend on the shield. Above this there is the following inscription, which I copied some time back:—"Here lieth the bodie of John Vaughan of Keven Bodig Esquire. Bried the 26 Day of April 1671." Of course the "I.V." on the shield stands for John Vaughan, and the words "Hwy pery clod na Hoedl" (that have puzzled your correspondent), freely rendered, mean—A good name lasts longer than a lifetime.

BONWM.

VOLUNTEERS OF 1804 (Feb. 5, Apr. 2, 23, May 28, 1879).—MERIONETHSHIRE. On Apr. 2, you gave an interesting record of the Merionethshire Volunteers of 1803-4. I have recently copied a newspaper paragraph which states that in Feb. 1805 "The *Cader Idris* Volunteers (about 400 in number) have just completed their course of permanent duty at Dolgelley, under the command of the worthy member for the county, Sir R. W. Vaughan, Bart." It was also stated in the note of Apr. 2, that Mr. Edward Lloyd Edwards was Major Commandant of the

Edernion corps. In looking over the newspapers of the period I find that he retired in May 1805, and was succeeded by Capt. Hugh Davies (who, as you state, was Major in 1806, when the latest return of numbers was published). In consequence of the promotion of Capt. Davies, Lieut. Walter Jones became captain; and at the same time Capt. Thomas Davies resigned, Lieut. Henry Maesmawr was promoted. These promotions, &c., as a matter of course necessitated other changes, which are recorded as follows:—"John Jones, gent., to be Lieutenant, vice W. Jones, promoted: Edw. Evans, gent., ditto, vice Maesmawr, ditto." At the same time there were some new appointments. In the official list of 1804 the company had only two lieutenants and no ensigns. At the date to which I am now referring (May 1805) a third lieutenant was added—Robert Roberts, gent., and the following "gents." were made ensigns:—John Humphreys, Thomas Roberts and Francis Clerk. Robert Jones, gent. was appointed Quartermaster. The *Barmouth* company seems to have come into existence at the same time, for under the date of May 29, 1805, I find the following officers gazetted:—Edward Roberts, esq., Captain; Owen Owens and John Jones, gents., lieutenant and ensign. There were also some changes in the *Pentlyn* corps: Ensign Robert Williams was made lieutenant vice Davies; and Ensign William Evans, ditto, vice Jones; both of whom had resigned. These promotions of course caused vacancies in the office of Ensign, and these were filled up by two gents. of the name of John Roberts. The Quarter-Master, Ben. Chidlow, also resigned, and his place was filled by John Ellis, gent.

N.W.S.

SHROPSHIRE WORD-BOOK (July 9, 1879).—*Comical*. I see by the *Oswestry Advertiser* of July 2, that the Judge of the Chester County Court the other day remarked that "Servants were getting too *comical*" in the present age. Doubtless His Honour had the provincial meaning of the word in his mind. Miss Jackson gives it as "queer in temper, disagreeable." The word, in this sense is in use in several counties I believe. H.B.

Blow.—Miss Jackson gives this word as used in the Shrewsbury district. I have preserved an example of its use in an editorial paragraph:—"A few days ago a rose in full blow was gathered-out of a garden belonging to Mr. Weaver, of Gravel Hill, near this town; and should the weather continue favourable several more will soon arrive at maturity on the same tree."—*Salopian Journal*, Nov. 21, 1804.

Bloody Warrior.—Halliwell gives this as used in the West, and I have often heard it in Somersetshire; but in a Word-Book for that county issued by its Archaeological Society, it has been overlooked. JARCO.

Barley Child.—May I suggest a meaning for this term not hinted at in the excellent new Shropshire book of Words just issued. The Much Wenlock belief seems to be that a child born six months after wedlock is so called "in allusion to the time which elapses between barley sowing and barley harvest." Would it be more far-fetched to say that the child is so spoken of because its parents have *bartie* saved their credit?

HAMLET.

FIRST WELSH NEWSPAPER (June 25, 1879). "A.H." and myself do not appear to be writing on quite the same subject. I refer to Welsh newspapers properly so called, while he writes of Welsh periodicals. Newspapers were not the first productions of the Welsh periodical press. *Seren Gomer*, as I have more than once stated, was the first Welsh newspaper, but not the first periodical in the language. Some magazines had

previously appeared; and *Y Drysorfa* (*Trysorfa Ysprydol* is the correct title) was one of them; but it was by no means the first periodical publication in the language of the Principality. The first number of the *Trysorfa Ysprydol* appeared in 1799 at Chester from the press of Mr. W. C. Jones (not from the press of Mr. Saunderson of Bala), and was edited by the Rev. Thomas Charles and the Rev. Thomas Jones.

The first Welsh periodical magazine was *Trysorfa Gwybodaeth, neu, Eurgrawn Cymraeg*, a fortnightly journal, published at Carmarthen in 1770, twenty-nine years before the Chester *Trysorfa*.

The Welsh magazine next in point of time was the *Cylch-grawn Cymraeg; neu Drysorfa Gwybodaeth*, sometimes called *Cylchgrawn Morgan Rhys* from the name of its Editor. It was published at Trefecca, the first number appearing in February, 1793, and the second in May of the same year. It was therefore an approach to a quarterly publication. The price was sixpence, and five numbers of it appeared.

The third Welsh magazine was *Y Geirgrawn: neu Drysorfa Gwybodaeth*, "Am y flyyddyn 1796." This, like the early *Trysorfa*, emanated from the Chester press, and, so far as my knowledge goes, was discontinued after the ninth number.

Trysorfa Ysprydol, which, as already stated, commenced its career at Chester in 1799, ranks as the fourth periodical in the Welsh language.

I have seen and examined these four magazines, and therefore I feel tolerably confident that my account of them is correct. Further notices of them will be found in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry* under the various dates; and Dr. L. Edwards in his *Traethodau Llenyddol*, pp. 505—585, has very complete and interesting articles on *Trysorfa Gwybodaeth* and *Cylchgrawn Cymraeg*, to which for further information the readers of *Bye-gones* may be referred.

D.S.E.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(July 16, 1879.)

JACKSON, JOHN, a poor uneducated Cheshire man, deserves to be mentioned among the "worthies" of that shire, for the accidental service he rendered to the commercial advancement of his native county. In the year 1720 he was employed in boring for coal at Marbury Lane, near Northwich, and to his own great astonishment he came upon a bed of rock salt, from which discovery sprang the development of a new trade in the Valley of the Weaver, which has enriched thousands of our countrymen and benefitted in other ways millions of the human race. At the present time more than one million tons per annum of salt is produced in that part of Cheshire. Hundreds of people are constantly employed in the mines, and when to these we add coal getters and chemical workers who derive their living in connection with this trade, we can very easily appreciate the local reverence with which John Jackson's name is mentioned to this day in the "great salt valley" of Cestria.

JAMES, DANIEL, a native of Maesaleg in Monmouthshire, is mentioned among the earliest of Mr. George Whitefield's friends in that part of the country, but he does not appear to have been much of a Methodist at any time, his views being Congregational so far as church government was concerned, and he was but "a moderate Calvinist in doctrine." He was ordained into the ministry at New Inn, Glamorganshire, and presided over the Independent Church there for some years; doing much good as a faithful and godly man, "and Luke-like, in attending to the health and well-being of the common people." In other

words he understood the practice of medicine, and served all the neighbourhood in that capacity without fee or reward. In this character he is pronounced to have been superior to most medicos, having studied the art of healing under men of eminence, both at Bristol, and in London. He died about 1799.

JAMES, SIR HENRY, was born at Hereford, in the year 1828, and educated at Cheltenham College. He was called to the bar in 1859, and in 1869 was made Queen's Counsel. In the same year he was returned to Parliament, upon a scrutiny, as member for Taunton, and has continued to sit for that borough ever since. He has filled the offices of Solicitor and Attorney General under Mr. Gladstone's administration, and by his own great talents and ability has made for himself a high position both in Parliament and at the Bar.

JAMES, JOSHUA, a most excellent man, born in Monmouthshire, was ordained at Llanwenarth to the work of the Ministry among the Baptists in 1695. There, he for some years assisted Mr. Richards, and on his death in 1708 succeeded him as pastor of that Church. He laboured very earnestly in the Ministry, both at home and in parts of England, where his services were always acceptable. He died in 1728, and was buried at Llanwenarth, with these curious lines upon his gravestone:—

Here lieth one of Abel's race,
Whom Cain did hunt from place to place;
Yet, not dismayed, about he went,
Working until his day was spent.
He's now at rest, and takes a nap
Upon his common mother's lap;
Waiting to hear the bridegroom say,
"Arise, my love, and come away."

JANION, CHARLES, born at Bradley-Orchard, Cheshire, in the year 1796, having been ordained in 1819 as a Methodist minister, proceeded to the West Indies as one of their missionaries. There for nine years he diligently strove to bring the unhappy blacks to an acquaintance with the blessings of a freedom far above any that men could give them. His success was beyond all expectation, and although we may sneer at a civilization which has to do with the heart, there are few thoughtful people who do not now admit how much easier it is to instruct men in the economical and political arts, when they are open to the small still voice of conscience, than when living under the influence of a passion which converts them into mere partisans. Mr. Janion never meddled with politics, and yet he helped to create for politicians a condition of things which did them service. Returning to England in 1828 he continued his ministry among his own people, and in 1871 he died.

JEFFREYS, JOHN, was born in Ellesmere, Salop, about the year 1794, and was in 1817 admitted a student at the Blackburn Nonconformist Academy, then under the care of the Rev. Joseph Fletcher, A.M. In 1821, having expressed a desire to be a Missionary, his tutor recommended him to the Directors of the London Missionary Society, under whose auspices he was sent to Madagascar, accompanied by his wife and a daughter by a former marriage. In 1825, in consequence of the state of his wife's health, they were recommended to visit the Mauritius. On the voyage Mr. Jeffreys and one of his children died. On her return to England Mrs. Jeffreys published "The Widdowette Missionary's Journal," which contains a silhouette portrait of Mr. Jeffreys, and a preface by his old tutor, who sums up the character of the deceased thus:—"Though some of the students might possess a higher order of mental capabilities, and previously acquired advantages, none excelled him in honourable and industrious application, unaffected humility and fervent piety."

JENKINS, HERBERT, was born at Mynyddislwyn, Monmouthshire, in the year 1721, and after receiving a suitable education at the Baptist College, Bristol, he devoted himself to the work of the Ministry. He had joined Mr. Howel Harris in 1740, and is mentioned in 1742 as an appointed "exhorter" among the Methodists. Mr. Whitefield having met him in Wales, and being struck with his eloquence, induced him to preach at his Tabernacle in London, and for some years afterwards he laboured as an English Evangelist in divers parts of the country. In 1749 he was ordained Minister of the Independent Church at Maidstone, in Kent, where he died in 1772.

JENKINS, THOMAS, a Herefordshire man by birth, is mentioned by Mr. Fosbroke as a gentleman who had devoted much time to the elucidation of the history of Mr. Kyrle's life. He says that "He was fond of such research," and another writer adds that "he was a most accomplished antiquary, well versed in genealogical history, and a careful amateur herald, who understood his art, and how to apply it correctly." It is upon his evidence chiefly we know that Pope became so well acquainted with the history of the "Man of Ross." There are numerous proofs in existence of the attention Mr. Jenkins paid to Herefordshire antiquities, and he is most deserving, therefore, of remembrance. He was one of the many Herefordians who endeavoured to preserve for the use of posterity the history of such ancient remains as deserved to be preserved, but much of his handiwork became dispersed at his death, and no loving friend has since sought to recover them for the advantage of historical students.

JENKINS, TITUS, eldest son of the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, was born at Blaenau, Monmouthshire, in the year 1804, and was educated at Stepney Baptist Academy, for the ministry. Upon leaving that seminary he was ordained and settled at Ramsey in Huntingdonshire, but falling into a decline he had to give up his charge, and died in 1834. It is manifest from some things he wrote in Welsh, and from manuscripts found among his papers after his death, that he was a young man of great attainments, a good scholar, a bard of excellent promise, and a writer of ability. From an English memoir of him, it appears that he was a forcible speaker, and a very worthy man in other respects.

JENKINS, WILLIAM, a Monmouthian by birth, wrote several poetical pieces in the Welsh language in the latter part of the sixteenth century. The late Rev. William Roberts, of Blaenau, Gwent, had secured several of his poems, more or less incomplete, and he considered them "master-pieces of eloquence, and perfect specimens of the Bardic art." Judging from the style of the writing it is probable he had been well educated, and the substance of his verses proves that he was also religiously inclined, but a Romanist in faith, inasmuch as he dwells upon the intercessory qualities of the Virgin Mary. The "old religion," as it was called, had many faithful adherents in Monmouthshire long after the formal establishment of the reformed faith, but some of these settled in Brecknockshire, and there Mr. Jenkins is said to have died in the year 1604.

JENKS, ROLAND, born in Shropshire in the early part of the sixteenth century, had been brought up in the Roman Catholic faith, but when the Reformation had taken fast hold in England, he found it hard to preserve his life and his faith in the land of his birth. For a time he took in private pupils at Oxford, and eventually set up in business there as a bookseller. In an evil moment he was taken up as a Catholic, and in 1577 tried for some

offence against the rigorous laws of the period, and condemned "to have his ears nailed to the pillory, and to deliver himself, when he felt inclined, by tearing them off with his own hands!" That was a time when "men were angry for God, passionate for Christ, called out names for religion, and flung stones for the faith." William Penn quaintly remarked of all such "To be sure they are no Christians of Christ's making," but they one and all thought it meet to do God service after this fashion. This poor Roland Jenks abandoned not his faith, notwithstanding the vile treatment he was sentenced to undergo, but we are not to conclude therefore that his zeal was at all well founded. Protestants suffered for their faith in the same fashion, and we should ever try to remember how a zeal without knowledge often prompted the law maker to pass unjust enactments, and the law breaker to put all law at defiance. Mr. Jenks suffered unjustly although legally, and his name is but one more to be added to the multitude of all creeds who have suffered in like manner in this so-called Christian land of ours.

JOHN, HARRY, who died in the year 1754 at the great age of ninety, was one of the Borderers of whom we know far too little. Born in Monmouthshire in the year 1664 he spent many years of his life, none heeding whence he hailed from, but when he had died, full of years, and could leave behind him abiding proofs of his ability as a poet, and of his piety as a truly Christian man, songs were sung in his honour, and he was forthwith claimed for a Cambrian. That he was a Monmouthshire Welshman we may readily admit, for he loved to labour for and among the Welsh, as an earnest member of the old respectable Baptist Church at Pen-y-Garn, near Pontypool. His sacred songs are sweet and edifying, and they breathe that heavenly spirit which had given him strength of mind to cast in his lot with the Nonconformists, at a time when flesh and blood urged men not to do so. The remembrance of the man's goodness, and of the service he rendered to religion, entitles him to be dignified in these pages as one of the very best of our worthies.

JOHNES, ARTHUR, who had descended from a respectable Glamorganshire family, was born at Maesaleg, Monmouthshire. He was a noted Presbyterian layman, very much opposed to the sacerdotal claims of the clergy in the English Church, and a firm adherent to the commonwealth form of civil government. Mr. Jessop, minister of St. Nicholas, Bristol, was among his dearest of personal friends, and in a letter of his, dated Fyfield, Essex, 1661, he states that "Mr. Johnes had emigrated to the west, hungering after that freedom of conscience which he had failed to enjoy in his own country." He was esteemed as among the most scholastic of men, a clear and able controversialist, and a good writer. Mr. Basset Johnes, author of "Lapis Chyrmicus," &c., published in 1648, was his cousin, and the celebrated Thomas Johnes a descendant of his. He died in America 1679.

JOHNS, WILLIAM. This remarkable man was born in Monmouthshire in the year 1629, and is mentioned in some old MSS. as "a very learned scholar, and a writer of considerable eminence." He is best known, however, as master of Evesham School, and author of a scarce and curious play entitled "The Traitor to Himself, or Man's Heart his greatest Enemy." The work was published at Oxford, 1678, and was evidently written for the boys under his charge. The prologue is in parts, to be spoken by four boys; it contains no female parts, and is in Heroic verse, with intermarks at the close of each act. Some other plays have been attributed to this author, not upon any good authority; but an "Essay upon education,"

which he wrote in 1675, entitles him to great praise for its scholarly qualities, and for the high moral tone which distinguishes it throughout.

JOHNSON, GEORGE HENRY, a native of Chester, where his father and grandfather had been engaged in trade, is worthy of passing notice, as a youth of great promise. He was sent to Shrewsbury School for his education, and died there in the year 1818. Dr. Butler thought so highly of him, that he prepared a very elegant Latin inscription for his monument, in which reference is made to his brilliant abilities, and promise as a scholar. His remains lie interred in St. Peter's Church, Chester.

JONES, SIR FRANCIS, son of John Jones, of Claverley, in Shropshire, was born in that place, and proceeding to London, he in time became a haberdasher of some note, and in 1620 Lord Mayor of the City. There is a story told of how he pleased King James the First, by some very loyal speech he had made in the Royal presence; but "London Loyalty" at that time was but skin deep, for the glory of Elizabeth's reign was fast fading under the Stuart regime, and Scotchmen alone gained and took all the profits and honours in the gift of the King. We look in vain for the living life of this Salopian worthy, and if the silence of history is to be accepted as a golden tribute to his worth, then was he great indeed, for he has left to us nothing but his name, and of the office he held, for notice.

JONES, JEREMIAH, a native of Monmouthshire, is deserving of honourable mention, for the very many proofs he gave of his devotion to duty. He had been brought up a strict Conformist in religion, and when King Charles the First visited Monmouthshire he was of the loyal band who "stood firmly by the King, and loved to serve him with his life and substance," but he soon found to his sorrow that princes are but men, and that his master was by no means so loyal to his country as a sovereign might be expected to be. This did not induce him to turn his back upon the monarch, but soon after his death he emigrated to America, and to his dying day, in 1670, we are told "he prayed earnestly for the royal house, and stood firmly by its fortunes in the midst of Republicans who thanked God that Charles the First had been put to death." This good man founded some schools in his adopted country, and did much for his poor countrymen who had been forced to settle there for conscience' sake, irrespective of creed. It has not been sufficiently remembered that many Royalists and Churchmen had to leave England in days long past for "conscience' sake," and that all these brave men are as much deserving of our sympathy as the Nonconformists and Republicans of an earlier date, who had to emigrate to the west for a like reason.

JONES, SANSOM, born in Monmouthshire in the early part of the seventeenth century, was living in 1650 at Bettws, in that county where he practised the art of medicine, and was careful to write out in his own quaint style a "Medicine Boke," abounding in extraordinary remedies "for all diseases and troubles." Mr. Hotten says of it "as a volume of *Old popular Welsh cures*, it is doubtful if a more curious one exists" some of the recipes are mere "old women's fables," but Mr. Jones was not to be despised on that account for he possessed a keen eye, and an understanding heart, and left to posterity many wise saws for use. In another old manuscript from his pen, he marks with care and fidelity some of the political events of his day and moralizes upon them with a candour and force which is quite refreshing. There can be no manner of doubt, as to the ability and respectability of this provincial medico, he was in some things far ahead of his neighbours; skilled in his profession, warm in his sympa-

thies, sound of principle and a true friend. What has become of his many writings, we know not, but we do know that some of them at least deserved publication.

JONES, WATKIN, "a gentleman of property and consequence" was born in Monmouthshire, and resided at a place called "Sychnant," in that county. He is known to have been much opposed to Charles I., a Commonwealth man in fact, and withal a Puritan in religious matters. For some years he acted as a lay preacher at Bedwas and Newport, assisting his friend Mr. Henry Walter, but in 1668 he appears to have undertaken the "oversight" of a Dissenting Church near Mynyddislwyn, and to have devoted his time, money, and talents to the promotion of religion. He died in 1694, much regretted, for he undoubtedly was a good man, and a true friend to all who loved the truth. Regardless of creed, he was a great benefactor to the poor and needy, his religion being of that broad cast which saw much good in everything, and beyond the grave he discerned far more mansions prepared for the godly than the narrow-minded ones on earth could count up.

JONES, WILLIAM, son of Sir Philip Jones, of Llanarth Court, Monmouthshire, was born at Tre Owen, near Monmouth. He was nominated by King Charles the Second as one of the "Knights of the Royal Oak," in proof of his father's loyalty to the unfortunate Charles, when that monarch's interests were at stake in the Borders. Most readers know that the Royal Oak honours ended in smoke, but the loyalty of William Jones remained firm to the crown, although his attachment to the person of the "merry monarch" ceased to exist. This gentleman is deserving of unbounded reverence for the benign and merciful manner in which he dealt towards his neighbours who had been "rebels." His father had fought with the sword; this excellent man endeavoured not unsuccessfully to sustain royalty by his good example, his generosity, and his piety; and we find him dying, as he had lived, beloved and respected by his countrymen at large.

JULIUS, (SAINT). We cannot afford to pass this Monmouthian saint over without notice, although Mr. Rees declines to give him a place among his "Welsh Saints." He was born, it is said, at Caerleon, and suffered death as a martyr in the year 303, under the Dioclesian persecution. St. Alban, who was put to death at the same time, is honoured as the Proto-Martyr of England; why should Julius not go down to posterity as one of the two Welsh martyrs of that memorable period? Walter-de-Mapes says, a church at Caerleon was dedicated to their memory, and Llanharan, in Glamorganshire, is also supposed to be similarly honoured. Mr. Rees, we fear, refuses to do Julius and Aaron honour because they were "more Roman than Welsh," but surely this is not fair, for it is quite possible to sustain the theory of an ancient and independent church in Wales, without casting out of the saintly calendar these holy men, natives of the country, who, having spent many years of their lives at Rome, came back to their native land, and died there for the faith, although possibly somewhat touched with the impurities of Romish observances. He admits that Constantius of Lyons, Venantius Fortunatus, and Bede refer to the martyrdom of Julius, and we venture to think that no saint can have a higher title to distinction seeing that he had sealed his faith with his blood. True it is that Julius "is not mentioned in any catalogue of *Welsh Saints*," and we are quite willing to abjure the prefix if that can gratify the Welsh nation, but we claim for the holy man himself a very high place in public esteem, for although he served his maker in a manner that did not altogether please the "ancient British," he served Him

well, and evidenced to all his countrymen by his death how much better it is to please God than to submit to the erring decrees of men. Let Monmouthshire, then, hold fast to her martyred Julius, let her do fitting honour to his memory, for so long as waters run, his name is deserving of remembrance, and his sacrifice of life for the faith must always be spoken of with honour.

KENDRICK, HENRY, a native of Herefordshire, and ancestor it is believed to the Denbighshire family of that name, was actively engaged in the popular cause during the Civil Wars. He served under Col. Jones—the regicide it is thought—and fought desperately for the Commonwealth. He was much opposed to Cromwell's assuming the royal prerogative under the guise of a protectorate, and for some years he resided in Holland, but afterwards returned to his own country, and settled in the neighbourhood of Wrexham. A descendant of his married into the Savage family many years after his death, and in this way perpetuated the line of Philip Henry in that of the descendants of our worthy who had lived upon terms of intimacy with him. He was a scholar, and a person of sterling integrity, a sound Nonconformist, and a truly pious man. He died in 1698.

KENDRICK, SIR JOHN, a native of Chester, following the example of a good many of his countrymen, who had done so already, proceeded to London in the hope of making a fortune. He became a member of the Grocers' Company, and when he had grown rich, his fair ambition induced him to hanker after municipal honours. He was sheriff of London in 1646, and five years later Lord Mayor. Evelyn calls him "a Lunatic Lord Mayor," but that probably meant no more than his being an earnest supporter of a policy which did not find favour in that writer's eyes. In another account he is mentioned as "a wise, prudent, and upright man," but we look in vain for any account of his works in proof of the latter assertion, and it is not at all unlikely that, but for his wealth and his honours, his name would have remained unrecorded, his virtue being buried in oblivion as a thing of no value.

KENT, RALPH, a native of Nantwich, in Cheshire, is mentioned by Webb in the "Vale Royal" as "an ancient and grave schoolmaster," who for nearly fifty years had taught in the Grammar School of the town, originally established by the brothers Thrush. This excellent man had also enlarged the schoolroom at his own cost in token of his affection for sound learning, and his love for his native place. His family had been connected with Cheshire for several generations, "one Richard Kent, a yeoman, and a man of substance," died at Nantwich in 1502, and a few years later Thomas Kent, of Nantwich, is mentioned in an old deed as the owner of property in the town. We are unable to say when our worthy died, nor to prove his connection with the last-mentioned persons of his name.

KENT, ROGER, born at Nantwich in 1814, was sent to the Grammar School, Manchester, for his education, and thence proceeded to Brasenose College, Oxford, where in 1837 he graduated B.A. He was ordained to the curacy of Penny Bridge, and in 1839 he removed to Disley, where he remained for some years. In 1853 he was appointed to Burleydam, and made domestic chaplain to Viscount Combermere. His character was simple, and his life a chapter of cheerful and unaffected piety, and although he did not shine as a public man, he was an excellent scholar, well read in the classics, and a superior man in many respects. He died in 1865.

KEYSELL, THOMAS OWEN, a native of Ludlow, in Salop, where he was born in 1814. After spending some years in the pleasures of sin, he was arrested in his

dangerous career, and led to 'unite himself with the Methodists. In 1838 he became one of their travelling ministers, and soon evinced remarkable ability as a preacher of the Gospel, "his ministry being Evangelical, earnest, and faithful, his sermons full of vivid illustration and powerful reasoning," and thus he worked his way from one circuit to another until at length in 1858 he was appointed to the Metropolitan one of Lambeth, with a bright prospect of eminence and influence. His health, however, broke down, and in the very midst of his promising career he died at Kidderminster, in 1862.

KINASTON, SIR ROGER, of Hordley, in Shropshire, is one of the border heroes, who is mentioned with honour by many local writers. He was present at the great battle of Bloreheath in 1459, where he slew Lord Audley, the Lancasterian leader; at that at Danesmore in 1471, and also at that of Barnet. Soon after the accession of Edward IV. to the throne he was knighted, and had given to him the confiscated arms of the unfortunate Audley, which were afterwards borne upon the first quarter of the Kinaston shield. He died in 1517.

KYNASTON, MADOG. He was the *first* of this eminent family who adopted the name of Kynaston, his father being Philip Vychan, of Stocks, and a descendant of a noted ancestor, Sir Gruffydd Vychan. Madog is supposed to have been born in Shropshire, and from his time the family have been very closely connected with that county. His son John was steward of Ellesmere in the thirteenth of Richard II., and as an interesting record of Salopian descents, it had better be stated upon the authority of Mr. Yorke, how they continued the line from John of Ellesmere. His son Madog married Isolda, daughter of the Earl of Northumberland, and they had a son John, who was father of Gruffydd, steward of Ellesmere in the ninth of Henry VI. His son, Sir Roger, of Hordley, had a son known as "Humphrey the Wild," and he had a son Edward, who died in the thirty-fourth of Elizabeth. This last was father to one Roger, he to Edward, he to Roger, he to another Edward, who sat in Parliament for Shrewsbury, and he to John, who sat in Parliament for Shropshire, whose son Roger was father to John Kynaston Powel, M.P. Land and honours fell to the lot of this race; honours they won in camp, and upon the field, and lands they managed to hold sometimes by the sword, and at others by the grace of the Crown, for Madog had enough of the Welshman in him to make him restive, and just enough of the Englishman to make him useful, so that from father to son the "crossed line" ran in and out with just sufficient force to make the Kynastons important men in their county, and a power to be cultivated by those in authority.

KYNASTON, ROGER, of whom Mr. Blakeway has justly said, that his "Memory is still cherished by those who knew him, for his equanimity, and strength of mind, and more especially for the zeal and activity with which he promoted every useful and beneficial undertaking in the town (of Shrewsbury) and neighbourhood of his residence." He is mentioned as of Shrewsbury, and according to a note in Mr. Joseph Morris's MS. he was son of John Kynaston, and half-brother of Corbet Kynaston whose name has already been mentioned in these records. The rebuilding of the Eastern Bridge, and also the erection of the County Infirmary at Shrewsbury, owed much to his personal exertions, and in proof of the esteem in which he was held by observant men, it may be stated that in 1759, the then Bishop of Lichfield deplored they had "No Roger Kynaston," in Staffordshire by whose zeal the immediate erection of a hospital could be secured in that county. We cannot find space to dwell upon his character, but sufficient

has been said to prove that he was both a notable and worthy Salopian.

KYRLE, JAMES, eldest son of Robert Kyrle, of Walford, Herefordshire, was born there in the year 1595, and is worthy of notice as the uncle of "the man of Ross," and husband of Anne, daughter of Robert Waller, of Beaconsfield, by a sister of John Hampden the Patriot. Both he and his wife were eminent alike in piety and in goodness, "each a professor of the true faith, and cultivator of pure religion in times of difficulties. He was eminent for the love of his country, for patronizing good men, and for the exercise of public virtues; she for the brilliancy of her wit, prudence, and mental endowments." He died in 1646, his wife having pre-deceased him in 1642. In a manuscript, dated 1668, Mr. Kyrle is spoken of in very high terms of praise, and we may fairly conclude, that he was very deeply attached to civil liberty, but no less so to the religious interests of the nation as a member of the Church of England.

KYRLE, SIR JOHN, of Hom House, in Herefordshire, and a native of the county, descended from the Marcle branch of the family, and in 1627 was created a Baronet by Charles the First. He married Sibyl, daughter of Philip Scudamore, and is the gentleman who built the Marcle Chapel, adjoining to the parish church of Much Marcle, wherein he erected a fair monument in white and black marble for himself and his lady "in the year of our Lord 1628," and upon which one of his descendants had cut these words, "Underneath sleep in peace Sir John Kyrle, Bart., and Sheriff of the county of Hereford, and his valued wife Sibyl; they lived together forty-four years in uninterrupted harmony, or without misfortune. His desire to preserve peace, or to prevent litigation, will cause his memory to be for ever beloved and respected."

KYRLE, ROBERT, a Herefordian by birth, being of the Walford branch of his family, "was a distinguished military character in the reign of Charles the first," but upon the parliamentary side. He is mentioned as "a stoney-hearted rebell, who plundered Master Smith's house at Goodrich"; in other words, he was sent by his commanding officer, the Earl of Stamford in 1642, to clear out the passages at Goodrich, because "Master Swift" was known to be favourable to the royal cause. The story is all told in "England's complaints against the Sectaries," and according to that work, Captain Kyrle and his hundred men did their work in a cruel and merciless manner, but it is fair to say that "Master Swift" was charged with purchasing arms, and conveying them to the enemy, and that he had exalted the kingly authority in a sermon which he had preached at Ross, in terms of an offensive nature to the authorities of the day. Captain Kyrle died in 1669 aged fifty-one, and lies buried in Walford Church "in hope of a blessed resurrection" notwithstanding all his faults.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE LORD LIEUTENANT'S GIFT TO SHREWSBURY.—At last the Corporation of Shrewsbury have decided upon a site for the handsome gift which some time ago Lord Bradford liberally offered to the town. A piece of statutory for the foundation arrived at Shrewsbury last week, and the work of erecting it commenced. At first it was thought the bottom of the middle avenue of the Quarry would be a suitable spot, but eventually the sloping bank of the Dingle, at the end nearest the southern avenue, was selected, and on Wednesday the work of erection was completed. The base and figures are alike of Portland stone. The figure is that of Sabrina, in a

reclining attitude and in a semi-nude state. Immediately below the figure, on the front part of the stone work, are the following lines from *Milton's Comus*:—

"Sabrina Fair,
Listen, where thou art sitting
Under the glassy, cool, translucent wave,
In twisted braids of lilies knitting
The loose train of thy amber-dropping hair;
Listen, for they dear honour's sake,
Goddess of silver lake,
Listen and save."

On the front of the pedestal is a scallop shell, with rushes, and the pedestal, like the figure itself, is of very fine workmanship.

THE NEW RECTOR OF WHITTINGTON.

The living of Whittington, which is about to be vacated by the appointment of the Rev. W. WALSHAM HOW to the Bishopric of Bedford, has been offered by Col. LLOYD to the Ven. Archdeacon FFOULKES, Rector of Llandyssil, Montgomeryshire, and accepted by that gentleman.

The new RECTOR of WHITTINGTON is well known to many of our readers. His visitations as Archdeacon for the last eighteen years have brought him into communication with the clergy and large numbers of the laity in the Archdeaconry of Montgomery, which extends from his own parish near the town of that name to Bala in Merionethshire. The removal of the Ven. ARCHDEACON to Whittington makes it still more desirable that a change should be effected in the Archdeaconries of Montgomery and St. Asaph. The anomaly of Archdeacon SMART'S travelling as far as Oswestry, while Archdeacon FFOULKES, passing Oswestry by, has to go to Bala, should be avoided by adding Oswestry and Llangollen to the district of the latter, and Bala and Corwen to the Archdeaconry of St. Asaph, in which they are naturally included. Of late years Archdeacon FFOULKES has abandoned the worn-out practice of delivering "charges," and substituted the much more useful and sensible system of inviting the clergy and churchwardens to discuss with him some subject of practical importance.

The Ven. HENRY POWELL FFOULKES, M.A. (who is a brother of Mr. WYNN FFOULKES, county court judge for Cheshire, and of the Rev. E. S. FFOULKES, and great grandson of JOHN FFOULKES, Esq., of Eriovit, who was admitted a freeman of Chester in 1736 on the recommendation of the Mayor, the Honoured Mr. WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN), was educated at Balliol College, Oxford, and passed fourth class in Litt. Hum. He took his degree of B.A. in 1837; and was ordained deacon in 1839, and priest in 1840. He was appointed curate of Halkin in 1839, and held the stipendiary curacy of St. Matthew's, Buckley, from 1840 to 1857. In 1857 he was preferred to the living of Llandyssil, and in the next year appointed rural dean. His appointment as Archdeacon of Montgomery and Canon Residentiary of St. Asaph dates from 1861.

The new church of Llandyssil is a monument of Archdeacon FFOULKES'S incumbency. He not only promoted the building, but gave £500 to the fund; and on the 23rd of September, 1863, the foundation stone was laid by the Earl of POWIS. Two years afterwards, on the 17th of October, 1865, the new church was consecrated.

Belonging to the High Church party, the new RECTOR avoids the extremes of that party, and may best be described, perhaps, as an Anglican. He is a staunch

adherent of the Church of England, and has laboured assiduously in her service; is well known in Convocation, and takes part in the debates.

The living of Llandyssil, which is put down in the clerical directories at £548 and a parsonage house, is in the gift of the Bishop of LLANDAFF.

LITERATURE OF THE MONTH.

WILLIAM HARDWICKE, Shropshire Genealogist and Antiquary.

Short Memoir by Hubert Smith, Esq., Madeley, Randall.

WHERE are the "Mytton Manuscripts"? We are of course perfectly aware that a number of MSS came under the hammer in 1877 which went by this name: indeed *Bye-gones* contained a very full description of the lots, the names of the purchasers, and the prices realized. But at the time our Salopian antiquaries were not satisfied that more was sold than were mere copies—in some cases enriched perhaps—with notes by Mr. Hardwicke; and Mr. Hubert Smith in the interesting memoir before us does not clear up the matter. All he says on this head is: "Mr. Hardwicke's home was the library, and his pleasure the perusal of dusty parchments of early time. Each leisure hour of his day was devoted to historic and genealogical study: the kind and genial old gentleman with well stored mind was often to be found a guest in the houses of the nobility and gentry of Shropshire. Amongst others at Halston, where he was hospitably received by the noted John Mytton, Esq., who allowed him free access to his deeds and family papers." This of course means that Mr. Hardwicke very properly availed himself of his privileges, by copying what was valuable; not that he carried away the "dusty parchments"! Then, we again ask, where are the "Mytton Manuscripts"?

Mr. Hubert Smith is to be congratulated on the production of so pleasant a memoir as the one he has written. It is valuable in many ways. First in preserving so full an account of a Salopian whose career, so far as we are aware, has found no permanent record save in the short biography in Mr. Salisbury's *Worthies*. Next in giving to the public an admirable portrait, most beautifully executed by Whymper, and three or four very nice photographs, reproduced by the Woodbury process, of the house where Mr. Hardwicke was born, and the quaint Welsh Church (Llanaber) where he was buried. Lastly in being able to issue the work at so reasonable a price.

Probably the book will not pay, commercially; and we must look upon it much as a labour of love. The price is only half-a-crown, and on the receipt of that amount, with two-pence added for postage, Mr. Randall, of Madeley, Salop, will send a copy to any address.

THE GOSSIPING GUIDE TO WALES.—30th Thousand. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

It would be entirely out of place in a paper issuing from an office so intimately connected with this book to attempt any review of it. Our purpose in noticing it is merely to call attention to the fact that a new edition has just appeared; which, amongst other fresh matters, contains a description of the line from Bettws-y-coed to Festiniog, about to be opened to the public. Speaking of this the author, at page 143, says:—

"Again, to seat ourselves in the train, in less than two miles from Dolwyddelan we reach about as unlikely a spot for a railway station as Great Britain could produce! But what to call it? We have seen how one company steered clear of the Scylla, 'Pontrhydfendigaid,' and the Charybdis, 'Ystradmeurig,' by finding a haven of refuge in 'Strata Florida' but in their case an arch and a history proved the existence of the abbey. Here the railway authorities, at a loss for a name in a locality where the habitations of men were few and far between, having a dim suspicion of a Roman road in the district, jumped to the conclusion that the stream was crossed by a 'Roman Bridge'; so by this name is the station called. If we may believe the people of the district in this we have the discovery of Scott's 'Antiquary' repeated for there are living those who can say, like Edie Ochiltree, 'I mind the bigging o't.' It is indeed asserted that an ancient of ninety, who lived in Dolwyddelan in 1878, remembered as a boy of ten, taking dinner every day to his father, who was one of the builders of the bridge."

The new edition concludes with some beautiful lines by the Bishop of Bedford on "losing sight of Cader Idris."

JULY 30, 1879.

NOTES.

THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN (July 9, 1879).—Extract from the journal of Miss Ponsonby, one of "The Ladies of Llangollen," in the possession (1861) of Mrs. Dicas, of Llangollen:—"Nov. 29, 1787. Lady Mornington's letter fraught with kindness,—her third son, Arthur, appointed Aid de Camp to Lord Buckingham, which gives us great pleasure." The Ladies lived to see "Arthur" occupy a more distinguished position than this! N.W.S.

QUERIES.

MADAM BAKER OF SWINY.—I have had copied (from "Wood 276a, fol. 142, in *Bodl. Library*") the following "Letter from a Friend in *Shropshire* to his Country-man, Mr. Richard Baxter, at his meeting-house in London:—"

"Being well assur'd of the respect you bear to mankind in general, and particularly those of your Native-Country, I presume to trouble your Reverence with the perusing of these lines, being mostly matter of Fact, as it is acted by one Mr. *Hugh P*— and Mr. *Philip ap R*— *Preachers* of an Independent Congregation at *Swiny* in this parish, at Mrs. *Bakers*, in which you may easily observe how some men corrupt the word, and what kind of gain they make by the pretence of *Godliness*. Had I known the particular Resident at *London* for this part of *England* I would have forborn this trouble to your self; but presuming you may have some knowledge of him, I desire, at your first convenience, to communicate this with what you shall think fit further to be done in the Affair, as your Reverence's Wisdom shall find most expedient. The Case is, Mrs. *Baker* before-named was left by her Husband [Thomas] *Baker* (one whom you know to be an honest man, and active in the late Reformation) in possession of an acquird Estate, to the value of 500*l* per annum well stock'd, and generally believed to be a money'd man. The said *Preachers*, with one Mr. *M*— of *Shrewsbury*, a Person for his Integrity well known to all the Gentlemen in the County, were deputed Trustees for the securing of the said Estate according to the Will of the Donor, his chiefest care being to prevent any Claim his Nephew Mr. *John Lloyd* might make to it, for that his said Nephew was a frequenter of the Parish-Church all his life-time, &c. and did not partake of the benefits he might have made by Dissenting in that particular. But so it is, the Testator has been dead about four years, and our good woman before-nam'd has enjoy'd the Estate, and has not in any thing slackn'd her hand wherein she might serve the Cause; for doing of which the more effectually, she converts the Hall of her Mansion-House to a very convenient Meeting-place, and furnish'd it with a *Pulpit*, and all necessary Pews and Seats for accommodating of the Auditory, which was very numerous; for the Word was preach'd as well in Welsh as in English; Mr. *P*— performing the first part; and of both Nations there was generally a great appearance.

"It is to be considered in our remote parts, and especially in Villages, there is not Conveniences for accomodating of People with necessary Provisions, when so far from their homes; to supply which, the good Woman (out of her own Purse) relieved all persons according to their Qualities, which you may reasonably guess cost Money; and 'tis now more then suspected that she has disbursed above 2,000*l*. besides the yearly Income; for that was very insignificant to the pressing occasions of the Congregation; and indeed (to give some of 'em their just Commendation) they were not wanting at any time to

supply the good gentlewoman with such sums of Money as she thought (for the better carrying on of the Work) she might stand in need of; and for security, they were so much her true Friends that they never refus'd the meanest Servant in the House; by which kindness they the more easier effected their ends; as you shall presently understand.

"The good Woman being intangled, as you have seen, and now hardly is Mistress of anything she us'd to call her own, she laid it a little too near her heart, and was very much afflicted with melancholly, and by the care of her Trustees she was convey'd to *Shrewsbury*, for the better recovery of her health, and in the meantime the Estate is seiz'd by the said Preachers for the use of the Creditors; which was done so effectually, that all, or most of the poor Servants being engaged with their Mistress, fled, for fear of the storm coming upon themselves, and left the booty to any that would take it.

"Mr. P— and Mr. ap R— having now preach'd themselves from the Hall to every individual Room in the House, and in full possession of the whole, it's observ'd that the usual care was taken on the Congregation is somewhat abated, and the numbers begin to lessen, not only in the *Weekly-Meetings*, but in the *Great and Monthly Meeting*, which was celebrated with *breaking of Bread in the evening, after a good Dinner at noon*; the defect of the latter does seem much to impair the use of the former; to prevent such an evil, will take up some time and cost.

"And now, my good Country-man, as I have always heard a very good report of your Justice and Integrity, and your willingness to employ your self upon all occasions wherein you might serve your Generation in any honourable undertaking, let me desire you to consider the sighs of the poor abus'd Widow, and find some expedient that she may be restor'd to her House and Estate; for in all probability that may be the only effectual way of a certain Cure; for so great a burden is too hard for one shoulder, (as appears by our object;) but if laid upon the whole, it will not only cure a Distemper in her, but in many hundreds, who (it's fear'd) are infected, more or less, with the spoils of a *devour'd Widows House*; And if by your *spiritual Comforts* to the poor Woman you are successful, no doubt but it will be an acceptable piece of Service, and a much greater to God and the whole Kingdom, if your fatherly Admonitions against such Practices, there shall be no occasion for the future to make any Complaints of this kind. My service to the Brethren, but more especially to your self: I am a hearty well-wisher, and your Country-man. "J.M."

"Oswalstree in the County of
"Salop, July 20, 1681.

"London: Printed for *Al. Banks*, 1681."

This is printed on a single leaf. Now we have, as I hope to show another week, evidence in existence which goes to prove that the information conveyed to Baxter by "J.M." cannot be correct, and I should be glad if some of your readers will explain what is meant by "the Particular Resident in London?" and still more if they can throw any light on the various persons represented by initials, not one of whom can I trace in any documents to which I have access.

JARCO.

REPLIES.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR (July 23, 1879).—It may as well be stated that the Wynnstay copy of Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar is the one to which I referred in my letter in the *Athenæum* of May 17, 1879, and which is now in course of re-publication in Paris.

D. SILVAN EVANS.

FREEDOM OF BOROUGH (July 9, 1879).—If Capt. Edward William Campbell Rich Owen, who was afterwards knighted and became Admiral, was the son of Capt. William Owen, who was Mayor of Shrewsbury in 1775, he must have been a freeman by birth. If, therefore, the Corporation voted the Freedom of the Borough to him it was a work of supererogation. It is more probable that he was on that day sworn and admitted a freeman.

W.H.

Shrewsbury.

WELSH LITERATURE (July 16, 1879).—Appended to the Welsh Book of Common Prayer, 1621, is Archdeacon Edmund Pry's Metrical Version of the Psalms. Both the Prayer Book and Psalms are in Gothic type, or black letter. They are usually bound, as they were published, together; but as they have distinct title-pages they are now often found separated. The size is 4to. This is probably the copy in the possession of your correspondent "W.H." As to the other book—the translation of T. A' Kempis' "Imitation of Christ"—there were two editions in the 17th century, one in 1679, and the other in 1684, but neither was printed by Thomas Durston, who began his business some years later. He printed a great number of Welsh books between 1700 and 1760, some in wretched type, and nearly all without a date. He appears to have had a diabolical dread of even mentioning the Annum Domini.

E.B.

WILLIAM OWEN (June 25, 1879).—If Mr. EVANS will call at the Powysland Museum the next time he goes to Welshpool, he will find in the Reprint of *Byegones* 1876-7, deposited in the Library there, a notice of William Owen in Mr. Salisbury's Worthies. He was Shropshire born not Welsh.

BLACKPOOL.

William Owen, the portrait painter, was not a Welshman, but the son of a bookseller at Ludlow, where he was born in 1769, the year that also produced Sir Thomas Lawrence. He studied for some time under Charles Catton, the Royal Academician, and his genius soon attracted the notice of Sir Joshua Reynolds, then president of the Royal Academy. Although Owen occasionally indulged in "fancy pieces," he is best known to the art world by his portraits of Lord Chancellor Loughborough, Lord Eldon, Lord Stowell, Sir William Scott, &c. At thirty-seven he was elected R.A., and soon afterwards became portrait painter to the Prince Regent. He was now in the height of his popularity; and his studios, first in Leicester-square and subsequently in the neighbourhood of Bruton-street, were resorted to by the highest in the land, notwithstanding the celebrity of Lawrence; then p.p. to the King and president of the Academy, Hoppner, R.A., Romney, the over-estimated Beechey, R.A., and p.p. to Queen Charlotte, and several other celebrated masters in the same department of art. In 1820 Owen was seized with paralysis, and for the next five years of his life he continued a helpless invalid. He died in February, 1825, from a quantity of opium which he swallowed in mistake for an aperient medicine.

Severn Grove, Llanidloes.

HUGH JERMAN.

AUGUST 6, 1879.

NOTES.

DRINKING SEA WATER.—Our grandfathers—perhaps because they were put to more trouble and expense in visiting the coast than we are—seem to have made more of their visits to the sea than we do. I read in a newspaper published in Aug. 1805, that "The increasing

improvements and accommodations at Aberystwith, have this year attracted a much greater number of arrivals there, for the purpose of bathing, drinking the sea water, &c., than was ever remembered." Formerly drinking sea water was as much a duty, when on a visit to the coast, as was drinking mineral waters at a Spa. I remember meeting some Welsh friends at Barmouth five-and-thirty years ago; and the father of the party, then an old man, used to drink a pint of sea water every day, and (another old Welsh custom, I think) undress and go to bed for an hour after his (mid-day) dinner. N.W.S.

SALOPIAN LITIGANTS.—There must have been a "litigant spirit" abroad in Shropshire, in the early part of the last century, for I find among my papers the following references to great suits, pending in or about the years undermentioned. 1727, Cause in the House of Lords between Jasper Jones, and Francis Leigh, and John Kenrick, relating to large estates in Shropshire. 1729, Cause between Mercy and Rachael Kynnersley, Henry Mytton, and others, relating to large estates in Salop. 1732, Appeal cause, between Thomas Acherley, and Ann, widow of Richard Acherley, relating to lands in Shropshire. 1736, Cause in the House of Lords between Sir Byby Lake, Bart., Benjamin Stoakes and others, relating to estates in Shropshire. 1737, Appeal cause in the House of Lords between Corbet Kynaston and the Mayor and Corporation of Shrewsbury. Lands, titles, pedigrees, and rights were in question, and some of these causes at least, had a public interest, which would give them historic fame. GLADWYN.

QUERIES.

KNIGHTS OF THE SPUR.—An Annual Meeting, including of course a Dinner, used to be held at Worthen, Salop, by a Society calling itself by this name. In Feb. 1805, "John Jones, Esq.," was president. Had the club, or whatever it was, any object in view further than an excuse for dining? SCROBBES BYRIG.

EDWARD CORBETT OF KENCHESTER.—This gentleman who died in 1654—it is thought—had been vicar of Kenchester, in the county of Hereford, and is reported to have been a person of some mark in his day. I should be glad if some of your readers could give me some account of him, both as to place of birth, family he derived from, and any works he published.

ANTIQUARY.

REPLIES.

DOLGELLEY DIRTY FAIR (Nov. 7, 1877).—A correspondent asked why a fair held at Dolgelley in the month of December was so-called? I observe Miss Jackson in her *Shropshire Word-Book*, says "Drayton Dirty Fair" got the name because being held in October the weather by that time became bad. Probably the same reason will hold good at Dolgelley. NEMO.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR.
(July 30, 1879.)

The following correspondence connected with the only perfect copy (as published) of this work known to exist, will interest our readers. The document, which was compiled by W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., of Peniarth, in 1875, contains extracts from letters between the Rt. Hon. C. W. Williams Wynn and the Rev. J. Jones (Tegid), &c., with notes of his own connecting the extracts. Following this we give Mr. Wynne's notes on the perfected copy at Wynnstay, and a letter addressed to him describing the copy in the British Museum. ED.

"The copies which I have seen of the first part of Griffith Roberts's Grammar are five:

- 3 from Wynnstay
- 1 Mr. Grenville's Library
- 1 The Welsh School (1)

In two of the copies from Wynnstay the name of Edward ap Roger (Eyton) of Bodylltyn is written at the beginning and end and in more than one of the intermediate pages of this part but it does not occur any where in the second part.—He lived at an old mansion now included in Wynnstay Park and appears from the Salisbury Pedigree to have died on the 15th of May 1587; but 20 years after the printing of the book according to the title page. It is highly improbable that if it originally contained more than 92 pages they should be missing from both of these copies as well as from the others.

"On the back of the title page is a table of contents which only goes as far as the 9th chapter, page 72.

"I observe that in pages 9 and 10 the author divides the heads of grammar into four *Iawnscrifenidieth* Orthography, *Cyfaeth* Etymology *Cystrawiaeth* Syntax and *Tonydaeth* Prosody and these form the subjects of his different parts but John David Rhys speaking of him page 4 of the dedication of the *Institutiones Cynraeca* says *unam tantummodo partem modo gramatice partem orthographum conscripsit*.

"Perhaps the other parts as they appear to be printed with different types though all in the same character were still in the press at the time of the author's death and therefore were not completed or regularly published.

"Of the second part I have seen 3 copies

- 1 The Wynnstay
- 2 The Welsh School
- 3 Yours

each of these are 112 pages and that at Wynnstay also contains the 8 pages of the translation of the Cato Major which are in that of the Welsh School.

"The third and fourth parts are only to be found in the Welsh School copy and in yours. They are exactly similar except that yours wants the Cato Major and the 55th and 56th pages of the Symblen ar Apostolion. These I have directed to be supplied in fac-simile MS."

[From an unfinished note in the hand of the late Rt. Hon. C. W. Williams Wynn, M.P.]

I have no doubt that this note was intended for the Rev. John Jones, of Ch : Ch : (Tegid). In a note from him to the Rt. Hon. C. W. Williams Wynn, I find:

"Please now to compare your copy with the discovered one which I could not do when at Oxford. My copy is to go to perfect yours, and if necessary the one also for the British Museum. When this is done I should be thankful for what may remain of my copy I congratulate you on being able to have for your library a perfect copy as far as hitherto can be found of this very rare Welsh Grammar. Would that there was a reprint of it."

It appears also from a letter of "Tegid" to Mr. C. Williams Wynn, dated 27 April, 1836, that there was then a copy of Roberts's Welsh Grammar in the Library of the "Bristol Institution for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and the Arts."

Extract from a letter from Mr. Panizzi of the British Museum to the Rt. Hon. C. Williams Wynn, dated "Mar. 10, . . ."

"I beg to thank you much for the three very rare parts of Roberts's Welsh Grammar which you have been

(1) Now in the Museum. This part, consisting of 92 pages, I apprehend to have been printed and published singly.—(Note by Mr. C. W. Wynn).

so good as to send us. I agree with you it seems as if the book was never completed and therefore not published."

In an anonymous memorandum in the Wynnstay copy, dated 21 July 1860, I find—

"I think that the first of the Tables" [there are two, which I had had bound up in the Wynnstay copy in 1861, but before I saw this mem.] "is a cancel."

"Tegid" says in another note, dated merely "St. David's Day;" "P.S. Many thanks for the account of the different copies of the Grammar."

W. W. E. WYNNE, Jan. 15, 1875.

Roberts's Welsh Grammar. Wynnstay Copy.

First part begins with title page, and ends at page 92 with the words "ar y burd." Then begins, at p. 1, "Dosparth Ar yr Ail," which ends with p. 112, at the words "Guybod yn fyfyr." Then begins at p. 1, "Y Rhan Divaeth Af i ramadeg a elwir Tonydiaeth" ending with p. 72, at the words "pynciau cyfrinachol." Then begins at p. 1, "Dosparth ar fessurau cerd dafod," ending with p. 56, at the words "guelun beunydd dai." Then begins, at p. 1, "Symblen yr Abostolion," ending at p. 56, with this line—

"(dod igyd) no dau di 'gai."

Then begins "Lyfr Marcus Tullius Sisero a elwir Caton," unpagued or the paging cut off, and ending with the words

"Yrhunn nedi ido gol—
ir."

This is supposed to have been all that was ever printed of the work, and it is thought that it was never published.

In the Wynnstay copy of Roberts's Welsh Grammar, after page 33, is a Table entitled "Tafulan o hol dosparth y cyseinaid, gureidiol, cyrchiau, ai chyrch-fau." This table is numbered in MS. as page "39," and immediately following it, before page 39, is another table word for word the same, but in larger type, and not containing a few lines of the lower part of the former table; this lower part is entitled "Teulu'r mudiad ai gwesteio," and may have been cut off. The Brit. Mus. copy has only one of these tables.
W., Jan. 1875.

"British Museum, Dec. 26, 1874.

"Sir. In answer to your queries respecting the Welsh Grammar of Griffith Roberts, I beg to inform you that the copy (press mark C. 33. a. 6. formerly belonging to Lord Lumley) in the B. M. has a table at the end of the first part. The second part ends at page 112 with a catchword. That the work was printed at Milan in Italy is conclusively proved by Mr. Thomas Watts in his essay on the Welsh Language and Literature, p. 44. I remain, very faithfully yours—

"W. B. RYE."

(Addressed to) "W. W. E. Wynne, Esq."

CURRENT NOTES.

THE SHROPSHIRE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The *Athenaeum* says:—"The Shropshire Archeological Society was founded in 1877. It has, however, already done good work, and the two parts of its 'Transactions' now before us compare favourably with the 'Proceedings' of many bodies of older date and wider fame. Almost all the papers are of local interest, and one of them, that on Robert Fitz Wimark, by Mr. R. W. Eyton, is a careful and elaborate study, which will be really valuable to future historians. One article only, that on the death of King Oswald, might have been omitted with advantage. The Rev. J. Brooke's paper on Shifna furnishes some

information as to the way the work of church restoration goes on. We hear of 'two fine marble monuments with recumbent figures of the Briggs family' being removed from the chancel into another part of the church; of interesting grave slabs being 'covered with modern encaustic tiles;' and of the windows of the south aisle being 'slightly altered from the former Perpendicular ones' into something which is, no doubt, quite unhistorical and meaningless. Archaeology in Shropshire has a very wide meaning, for we find here an article, and a most entertaining one it is, on the life and doings of the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, 'the most popular man in the county,' who owed much of the esteem in which he was held to his perseverance and skill in driving coaches. There is a mistake which ought to be corrected in the article on Cleobury Mortimer. The brass medal there described, with a saint's head on it and an inscription beginning 'SAN CAIETANUS,' has nothing to do with Cardinal Cajetan, but belongs to St. Cajetan of Thienna, the founder of the Order of Theatines, of whom some account may be found in the 'Acta Sanctorum,' Butler's 'Lives,' and elsewhere."

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(July 23, 1879.)

LAKIN, WILLIAM, son of Sir Richard Lakin, of Willey, in Shropshire, was born there in the early part of the fifteenth century. He was educated for the law, and rose to eminence in the practice of it, for we find him mentioned as an advocate before the Courts in the Year Book for 1452, and thirteen years later as one of the judges in the King's Bench, where with diligence, integrity, and learning he discharged his high office for ten years. He died in 1475. In one old manuscript he is named *William Lacon*, and it is now pretty well settled that he belonged to the Lacon family, but whether the chief line of that house came from him, or from some other branch is not very clear; in any case, however, both his and their descents may be accounted as Salopian and genteel.

LAMBE, WILLIAM, born at Henwood House, near Hereford, having received a liberal education, proceeded to Cambridge, where he took his degree of M.D. He settled at Warwick, and soon attained high rank in his profession. He entertained peculiar views as to diet, but being an excellent anatomist and chemist, he managed to enforce them in practice, and also to defend them in argument. He published "Reports on Regimen in tumours and cancerous ulcers," "Reports on Regimen in chronic diseases," and other learned works, all of them well written, and full of precise information, but open, nevertheless, to much argument on the opposite side, and probably not quite up to the standards of these times.

LANE, EDWARD WILLIAM, a well-known Oriental scholar, was born at Hereford in 1801. He received his education at Hereford and Bath, and afterwards studied the art of engineering under his brother in London. He is best known, however, by his learned works upon Oriental manners and customs, and especially by his "Arabic-English Lexicon" commenced in 1842, but not completed at the time of his death. The French Institute unanimously elected him a member of that learned body, and the university of Leyden made him a doctor. All such tributes of his worth, being but the reflex of that public opinion, which had given him a rightful place in the van of modern scholarship. He died 1876.

LANE, JOHN, who in 1600 published a very rare poem entitled "Tom Tel-Froth's Message," had descended from old Shropshire family, and was according to some authori-

ties, a native of that county. Phillips in his *Theatre Poet* mentions him as a "fine old Queen Elizabeth gentleman who was living within his remembrance," and he is mentioned by others as having left behind him several poems in manuscript. He resided mostly in London, and for some time in Somersetshire. Hugh Holland and Lodowick Lloid, two eminent North Wallian writers, were among his closest friends. Mr. Lane, the great Oriental writer of our day, is supposed upon good authority to have been of his kindred. He died about the middle of the seventeenth century.

LANGLEY, JOHN, who is best known as of "The Amias," near Broseley, in Shropshire, was a native of that county, and had descended from another John Langley, of Broseley. He is mentioned with respect by *Dugdale*, as a diligent collector of our national antiquities, and is noticeable, therefore, on that account; but he was also a trusted servant of Robert Sidney, Earl of Leicester, from whom he acquired the property which gave him local distinction. "He was," says a writer who knew him, "possessed of a profound knowledge of local customs, and the habits of the people, and so became useful to the Earl of Leicester, who gave him his entire confidence, and was often guided by him in the administration of the duties of his office." Mr. Thomas Langley, of Golden, who was sheriff of Salop in 1743, is sometimes spoken of as a descendant of his, but this is certainly wrong, for he died unmarried. According to a writer in *Shreds and Patches*, he was living in 1686, but the time of his death is uncertain.

LATHAM, JOHN, born at Gawsorth, Cheshire, in the year 1761, was sent to Oxford for his education. He distinguished himself greatly in that eminent University, and, having chosen the medical line for his profession, he practised at Manchester, and afterwards at Oxford, with great and deserved success. He removed to London, where for many years he stood at the very head of his profession, and was chosen in 1814 President of the College of Physicians. He contributed many valuable papers to the "Medical Transactions," and published a separate work entitled "Facts and Opinions Concerning Diabetes." He died in 1843.

LAWLEY, RICHARD, a native of Spoonhill, near Wenlock, in Shropshire, was both a descendant of, and ancestor to, a very honourable race of Salopians, whose virtues and wealth may be said to have culminated in Baron Wenlock, the present representative of this distinguished family. In 1547, the battle of Pinkey was fought, when the English, under the Earl of Hertford, defeated the Scots in the most decisive manner. We would naturally conclude that under such circumstances our own countrymen would rest upon their oars contentedly, but the dread of reprisals in the neighbourhood of Haddington, led the English authorities to send off in hot haste additional troops, and Mr. Lawley was chosen captain of the armed men raised in Shropshire for that service, and he marched with them in 1547-8 for the defence of Haddington. This one event in his history has given him a claim to distinction in the local annals of his county, and we may add that in 1641 his grandson was created a baronet.

LAWLEY, THOMAS, a younger son of the Lawleys of Spoonhill, in Shropshire, where he was born about the middle of the sixteenth century, had been educated for the law, and found his patron, friend, and warm supporter in his countryman, Sir Thomas Bromley, when that eminent lawyer filled the office of Lord Chancellor. In 1582 he addressed "the right worshipful my singular good friende Thomas Egerton, Esquire, her Ma'ties Soliceter Generale" asking his assent to the grant of the rever-

sion of an office to himself and his brother, which he was anxious to secure, and no doubt he had Bromley at his back, for he addresses this missive, "From my L. Chancellors house, at Wealde Haule in Essex," and signs himself, "Your assured poore Kynsman, to use and commande in all I can." We may hope that he gained his point, for both Bromley and Egerton were true friends to all Borderers, and never missed a chance of putting their kindred, and their old neighbours, into places of profit and trust. Mr. Lawley is said to have given up the law for the Church, but we much question it, for in 1600 he gave an "opinion" upon a very abstruse point of law, and did it so well, that we can have no doubt of his having acquired his perfection in his art by a constant practice of it. He was a keen, clear-sighted man, and possessed the virtue of perseverance, a virtue which has pre-distinguished so many members of his family since that time; and, to crown it all, he was as honest as he was clever, and deserved, therefore, to succeed.

LEE, SIR ROBERT, a native of Bridgenorth, in Shropshire, became a member of the Merchant Taylors' Company, and was afterwards chosen Alderman of Dowgate Ward; he served as Sheriff of London in 1594, and was Lord Mayor in 1602. During his year of office James the First was invited to take the Crown of England, and, as Lord Mayor, he subscribed in the first place before all the officers of State, and all the nobility, it being said that upon the Queen's death he was "the prime person of England," so high did this chief magistrate of London stand in the eye of the law. This historic incident gives to Sir Robert Lee a peculiar claim to notice, inasmuch as the kingly power had ceased to exist when Elizabeth died, there being no direct heir to succeed to the Crown, and James, as a matter of practice and of form, had to be "invited" to take upon him the Royal authority in this realm.

LEEKE, THOMAS, of High Ercall, Shropshire, who is mentioned as the founder of the Longford family of that name, provided in 1662 a Free School for the education of poor boys of that parish, and also a hospital for the maintenance of decayed householders. He was a person of pre-eminent excellence, his integrity had been proved at a time when his country had been passing through the fiery ordeal of a cruel civil war, and his sterling piety had enabled him to keep his eye upon the common good, when many of his neighbours and friends adventured life and property in support of party rule. He lived to see Charles the Second well established upon the throne, and by way of grateful remembrance of mercies he himself had received, he adopted this mode of evincing the love and affection he entertained for the poor and the needy members of his own immediate neighbourhood.

LEGH, JOHN, of Norbury Booths, in Cheshire, is probably the ancestor of the Leghs of Adlington. He was born at Legh, son of Sir Wm. Venables of Bradwell. He married Ellen de Corona, and, through her, acquired at least a part of Adlington. This must have happened in the time of Edward the First, for in the next king's reign, Queen Isabella seized the manor on the ground that the Leghs had obtained it without licence from the Crown. Sir John died in 1323, and after his death his widow made her peace with the Queen, and obtained a regrant of the Adlington Manor. In 1350 Ellen Legh died, and upon inquisition in that year it was found she had died seized of the manor for life, and that her son, Sir John de Legh was her heir. He succeeded to Norbury Booths, and his brother Robert obtained Adlington, which appears to have remained in his line down to 1781.

LEGH, PETER, gentleman, soldier, and priest, was a noted character among the Cheshire men who served under Edward the Fourth at Berwick. He had married when young, Ellen, daughter of Sir John Savage, but it is not known how long they lived together. He was a widower at the age of thirty-six, and so remained for twenty years when he became a priest. According to the *Shackerley Papers*, he slew Sir Thomas Boteler, and according to tradition, he committed many other serious crimes, and was at great pains to obtain a general pardon for his offences. He had probably succeeded in this before he took orders in the Church, for it is said that he afterwards built at his own cost Disley Church, an offering to God—and to receive peace for his soul. He is supposed to have died in 1527.

LEGH, PIERS, of Lyme, in Cheshire, was one of the few good and loyal men of mark who adhered firmly to the unfortunate Richard, when sore trials befel him. It is related that Henry of Lancaster in 1399 visited Chester, when mustering his forces before the walls, and when he took possession of the city, and the castle. He had no pity for the true men who had supported his rival, and having secured the person of Mr. Legh, he at once executed him and barbarously directed that his head should be placed on one of the highest turrets of the castle.

LEGH, ROBERT, second son of John and Ellen Legh, was born at Norbury Booths, in Cheshire. He inherited Adlington after the death of his mother in 1350, but he resided at Macclesfield, being justice in Eyre then, and one of the king's stewards of the manor and forest of Macclesfield. This manor had been held by Queen Isabella in her own right, and she was styled "the Lady of Macclesfield." She enjoyed all the emoluments arising out of it in her husband's lifetime, and for many years of Edward the Third's reign. It is not very clear, however, whether the stewards accounted to her or to the King. Mr. Legh died at Macclesfield in 1370.

LEGH, THOMAS, a lineal descendant of the last named, was living and possessed of the great estates in Cheshire, which had been so long vested in his family. When the Civil War broke out in the time of Charles, he was a zealous supporter of that unhappy monarch, and held a Colonel's Commission in his Army. Indeed all the male members of his family were engaged with him in supporting the royal cause. The Parliament resented his activity in a most remarkable manner, for when the treaty of Uxbridge was under discussion in 1644, it was insisted that Col. Legh and his relations should be treated as guilty of treason against the nation, and that their estates should be disposed of as the Parliament should think fit. He died at Chester in that very year, leaving a family of ten children, all sufferers in common through the unimpeachable honour of their gallant and noble hearted father.

LEGH, THOMAS, a native of Cheshire, and born at Adlington it is said, is known for the active part he took in the religious reformation promoted by King Henry the Eighth. His reports upon the state of the monastic institutions in Cheshire and other counties, have been preserved, some of these have been printed by the Camden Society, and if one half of his statements be true, it was full time upon public grounds alone, to suppress the monasteries, and to apply the revenues which they held, to other purposes. His zeal, courage, and honesty of purpose is to be admired, and it is fair to say, that he appears to have been a very impartial Commissioner. Sir Thomas Audley in one of his letters to Sir Thomas Cromwell commends him for this. He married Mary Grosvenor, of Eaton, and died in the third year of Edward the Sixth.

LEIGH, EGERTON, son of the Rev. Peter Leigh, rector of Whitchurch, Salop, was born at the old family mansion, West Hall, Cheshire, in 1702. He was educated for the Church, and became an LL.D., and Archdeacon of Salop, an office which he filled with great advantage and credit. He died in 1760, and was buried at Ledbury, in Herefordshire. There is a tradition that he had collected a mass of valuable and interesting papers relating to Cheshire, but so far, at all events, none of them have been printed, although it is supposed Mr. Ormerod had seen them, and had used some of them in the preparation of his great work on that county.

LEIGH, GERRARD, who in 1576, published the "Accidence of Armorie," was a native of Cheshire, and was of the kindred of the well-known "Cheshire Leighs." This work is now scarce and costly, but in some respects it is admirably adapted for general use, and it is remarkable that it is not, therefore, better known. The author published some other works, all more or less connected with the science of heraldry, and although some very learned people smile, when he is mentioned as an authority, there are others who esteem his handiwork as valuable, and upon some questions authoritative.

LEIGHTON, SIR BALDWIN, eldest son of a gentleman of the same name, was born at Shrewsbury in the year 1747. He entered the army in his thirteenth year, and was present at the siege of Madura, in the East Indies, when a lad of fourteen; he afterwards served in the American war, and was at the taking of New York, the storming of Fort Washington, and other minor engagements, and was severely wounded in the action at Monmouth Court House. We meet with him again in command of the 46th in the West Indies, where we lost four hundred out of five hundred and twenty men. In 1803 he served as Mayor of Shrewsbury, but this was a mere peaceful lull in the active business of military life, for he served as Brigadier-general in Portugal, and was Colonel of the 9th Gunners Battery. He was squire Governor of Carrickfergus, in Ireland, and for a time held the temporary Governorship of Jersey. In 1819 he succeeded to the baronetcy in succession to his cousin, Sir Robert Leighton, and dying in 1828 was buried at Alberbury. By his second wife, Louisa Margaretta, daughter of Sir J. T. Stanley, of Alderley, Bart., he had a son, Sir Baldwin Leighton, late M.P. for a division of Shropshire, and who died in 1871, but he was born at Sunderland in 1805, and we cannot therefore dwell upon his useful life in these sheets.

LEIGHTON, BURGH, son of a Baldwin Leighton, who died in 1791, was born in Shropshire in the year 1761. He is mentioned as an officer who had taken a gallant part in the Peninsular war, and as being present at the battle of Albuera, as a major in command of the 4th Dragoon Guards, for which service he received the medal distributed in honour of that event. He was a colonel in the army at the time of his death. A good story is related of him which is worth preserving. A great tall officer in the French service on one occasion rode out of the ranks, to the front of the regiment commanded by Major Leighton, and proudly challenged to single combat any Englishman who felt disposed to measure swords with him. Leighton, who was an exceedingly small man, hastened to accept this challenge, and in a few minutes killed the over-zealous Frenchman, to the great delight of his own comrades; and thenceforth he was dubbed "the British David." The frequency of these unsoldierly occurrences led the Duke of Wellington to prohibit such displays of personal valour, but we cannot forget that our officers were not the offenders, nor should we forget the many proofs they gave of

their sterling gallantry when compelled, as in this instance, to defend the honour of the service.

LEIGHTON, DANIEL, the eldest son of Sir Edward Leighton, the first Bart., was born in Shropshire in 1694. He served as Lieut.-Col. in General Evans's Regiment of Horse, and afterwards became a Lieut.-General in the British Army. He is one of the gallant Salopians who took part in the battle of Fontenoy, when the English, Hanoverians, Dutch, and Austrians, commanded by the Duke of Cumberland, were defeated by the French under the Count Saxe. The courage on both sides is admitted to have been very great, the allied forces loosing about twelve thousand men, and the French nearly as many. This gallant officer died in 1765, and was buried at Alberbury.

LEIGHTON, FRANCIS, brother of the last named, and born in 1696 in Shropshire, followed the example of so many members of his family and joined the English army. He was at one time Colonel of the 32nd regiment of foot, and a Lieutenant General. He too was present at the battle of Fontenoy in the year 1745, and although he happened to be on the losing side, his generous nature led him to appreciate the wonderful pluck of General Saxe, who although ill, insisted upon being carried about in a litter to encourage the French troops to persevere in the struggle against the allied forces. Louis the fifteenth and the Dauphin were present at this great battle, and as stated in another notice our Duke of Cumberland commanded the allied forces. General Leighton at one period of his life had served as gentleman in waiting upon the Prince (Frederick) of Wales. He died in 1773 and is buried in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

LEIGHTON, THOMAS, son of Baldwin Leighton, who died in 1791, was a very distinguished Salopian who served for many years under the East India Company, and is known as "General Thomas Leighton." He was born in the year 1751, and married when in India, Mary Louisa, daughter of Captain J. A. Everett, E.I.C.S. "He was wounded on many occasions" is the simple, but expressive language in which his gallantry as an officer reaches us, and no higher tribute could be paid to any man, for every reader of history will know how severe and protracted the struggle by which the vast Indian possessions of which we are so proud, were gained to the Company, and how much of our success in that far distant land was due to the courage and prowess of British officers, who adventured their lives in leading their men to the very front of the enemy. This brave man died in 1808, and was buried at St. Alkmonds, Shrewsbury.

LEIGHTON, SIR WILLIAM, who died in the year 1607, was of Plaish Hall, Cordington, Salop, and we are assured on good authority, a native of that county. He was educated for the law, and for the long period of forty years he served the Crown as one of the Council of the Marches. He was also chief justice of North Wales, and a good sound lawyer of the old school, well up in the civil law, and a master of all the intricate quirks in practice whereby the dishonest lieges set the honest ones at defiance. How his honest soul must have been troubled, had he lived down to our days, and beheld one Chief Justice upsetting the decrees of another chief, and all the world agog to know what the law is, and how it can be fulfilled, or evaded with safety. Sir William was a law to himself, and once he had pronounced his opinion, the North Walians had to accept his law as theirs—be it right or be it wrong.

LEWIS, MORGAN JOHN, was born at Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire, and is mentioned by Mr. Edmund Jones,

xxx

as "one of five who were converted in the Vale under the preaching of Mr. Howel Harris." We meet with him subsequently as a preacher among the South Walian Methodists and eventually as minister of an Independent Church near Pontypool in his native county. "He was a very great preacher" is the testimony of one writer who refers to him, and from other accounts, we gather how earnest, prompt, eloquent, and effective he was in the work of his ministry. It is impossible to over estimate the good he did, he aroused the public mind to a sense of duty at a time when sin abounded every-where, and humble as he may have been in circumstances, he is one of those worthies whose names should be held in everlasting remembrance. He died in 1758.

LEWIS, THOMAS, who proceeded from Eton in 1546, to King's College, Cambridge, is said to have been born at or near Ludlow in Shropshire. He wrote some verses on the death of Bucer in 1550, and in the same year took his B.A. degree, in 1554 his M.A., and in 1555 he subscribed the Roman Catholic articles. It is believed that he went abroad in 1557, choosing rather to leave his country than to conform to the reformed religion. Nothing is known about him after that, but he is sometimes confounded with another Lewis who did write and publish some works in defence of the Church of Rome.

LEWIS, THOMAS, born within the parish of Bedwelty, Monmouthshire, in the year 1706, is mentioned among the earliest of the "exhorters" who were appointed by the Welsh Methodists to evangelize in South Wales. He seems to have left that sect, and then he became an Independent minister at Blaengwrach, from whence he removed to Llanharan in 1774, and there he died in 1783. He is very highly spoken of both as a preacher and a public speaker, "a man possessing unquestionable abilities, and influential all over South Wales as a Nonconformist minister; pious in his life, useful as a leader of men, and happy in his death." In another place he is alluded to as "a follower of Mr. Howel Harris" which would seem to imply that he did not entertain any hostility to the Church of England, but had been moved to "exhort" from a desire to arouse his countrymen to a sense of their lost condition as sinners, and to "warn them to flee from the wrath to come."

LEYCESTER, SIR GEORGE, ninth in descent from Raufe Leycester, of Toft, in Cheshire, who died in the fourth year of King Richard the Second, was born in Cheshire, and in the 44th of Elizabeth was knighted by that queen. The following year he was sheriff of his county. He had been a very active and faithful servant to her Majesty, and secured thereby the approbation of the queen's lieutenant and captain-general, Robert, Earl of Leicester, who had appointed him captain of foot, "for the good opinion we have of the fidelity of this gentleman our servant." He died in 1612 at the early age of 45.

LEYCESTER, HUGH, 'son of Ralph Leycester, of Toft, in Cheshire, was born there in 1748, and was educated for the bar. He was for some years Recorder, and then Vice-Chancellor of Chester, and eventually he became Chief Justice of the Chester and North Wales Circuit. He died in 1836. It was he who wrote the well known lines upon Lord Penrhyn's slate quarry, commencing with the verse:—

It has truly been said, so we all must deplore,
That Grenville and Pitt have made peers by the score;
But now 'tis asserted, unless I have blunder'd
There's a man that makes peeresses here by the hundred!

LEYCESTER, MARIA, youngest daughter of the Rev. Oswald Leycester was born at Toft, Cheshire, in the year

1798. She married the Rev. Augustus W. Hare in 1829, and in 1870 she died. She lives nevertheless, in the affections of thousands of those who have read the account of her pure and holy life within the pages of that beautiful work "Memorials of a Quiet Life." The glorious work of divine grace, as exemplified in the character of a godly woman, is often more effective for good than the preaching of many sermons. In the perusal of the practical sermon of her life, how many a Christian must have exclaimed—

Hail! lovely peace with balmy wings,
'Tis the sweet boon the spirit brings,

—happiness, usefulness, contentment, faith, joy in the contemplation of a better world and of "being for ever with the Lord." That was the sort of "peace" the "spirit" brought to her heart and home, and through her to many troubled souls, who, seeing how her light shone before men, felt constrained to acknowledge the love and goodness of God, and to accept the free salvation purchased for them by the Saviour. Her life and her death were equally lovely, and it is precious to have to dwell upon the remembrances of this most excellent Cestrian worthy.

LEYCESTER, RALPH, a descendant of the very ancient and respectable Cheshire family of his name, was born at Toft in that county in the year 1762. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, gaining distinction there as a scholar, for he was gold medalist and senior optime of his year—1786. This reputation he maintained throughout life, and becoming a public man as member of Parliament for Shaftesbury, in Dorsetshire, he was enabled to turn his scholarship into good account, and to influence his countrymen in a right direction. He died in 1835, and had thus lived through a period of unexampled historical importance. The many political convulsions which had broken up nations on the continent, and which had disturbed and even endangered the state of society in England, he had seen and marked. The great struggles which his countrymen were making to secure liberty were all known to him. He also witnessed the triumph of the people in the enlargement of their political privileges and in the curtailment of the powers exercised by the Crown, and it does not greatly matter now, how he helped actively to promote these things, but we may admit with satisfaction that, upon the whole, we owe to gentlemen of Mr. Leycester's social position and culture the ability we possess in England of reforming our constitution without a revolution.

LITTLE, ROBERT, born at Sandbach, Cheshire, in the year 1800, was educated at the Manchester Grammar School, and proceeded thence as an exhibitor to Brasenose College, Oxford, where, in 1821, he graduated B.A., and in 1824, M.A. Having taken holy orders, he held the curacy of Stockport, and afterwards that of Marple, in the same county. Lady Vernon gave him Poynton in 1832, and during his residence there, he served his cure faithfully and well, providing spacious schools for the use of the neglected children, and in many other ways evincing the great interest he took in the welfare of his parishioners. He died in 1864.

LLOYD, DAVID, a famous borderer of Welsh descent, but born in the parish of Llanyblodwel, Salop, is often mentioned in old Welsh manuscripts as a friend of the old bards, and the hospitable host who did them kindness. *Guto'r Glyn*, who flourished from 1430 to 1480, has addressed a "cowydd" to him, commencing with the words "Af ddyw sul foddus aelwyd," and Mr. Williams states that *Lewis Glyn Cothi* addressed a poem to him, and wrote an elegy upon his mother. His father, Gruffydd ab Ieuan Vychan, lived at Abertanad, and Mr. Hugh

Jones (Erfyl) in one of his writings, states that, "both father and son were excellent poets, and noted for their patriotism," which doubtless he meant to apply to all that was of a Cambrian character. The close proximity of Llanyblodwel to Wales would of course entitle the Cambrians to claim the Lloyds as of their nation, but in point of fact Mr Lloyd was a Salopian, and is therefore properly noticed in these records.

LLOYD, HORACE, son of John Horatio Lloyd, was born at Chester in the year 1828. His father undertook his educational training and grounded him so well in knowledge that he passed through the school of University College, London, with great distinction at the early age of sixteen. He was entered at Caius Coll., Cambridge, in the year 1845, but he did not attend much to his studies when there, and came out eventually as nineteenth Wrangler only. He was called to the Bar in 1852, and in 1868 took silk and became a Benchet of his Inn. His one desire in life was to get into Parliament, where his speaking ability, his legal knowledge, and his general acquaintance with the world must have made him famous, but death had marked him out as a victim, and in March, 1874, he died, to the great grief of a multitude of loving and admiring friends.

LLOYD, JOHN HORATIO. This well known and very eminent lawyer was born at Stockport, Cheshire, in the year 1798. He was educated at the Grammar School of his native town, and in 1819 he matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree in 1823. Passing his examination for honours as a double first, two years later he was elected a fellow of Brasenose Coll. He was called to the bar in 1826, and in 1832 was chosen one of the members of Parliament for Stockport. Few men have excelled Mr. Lloyd as an advocate, but when the railway mania set in, he devoted himself to that branch of business, and soon became the chief authority upon all questions of agreements between companies, the referee in the settlement of differences, and probably the busiest lawyer employed upon arbitration cases in this country. His devotion to this line of practice enriched him abundantly, but his gain was a public loss, for with his clear mind, great knowledge of law, and his profound acquaintance with legal cases, he might have aspired to the Woolsack, and graced the House of Lords with his presence and his eloquence.

LLOYD (SIR), RICHARD, a civilian of some distinction, was born in Shropshire in the year 1634. He is supposed to have been educated at Oxford; at all events he became a fellow of All Souls College in that University, and also a LL.D. According to some accounts he was learned in the civil law, and eventually became official of the Court of Admiralty; he was also Chancellor of the Dioceses of Durham and Llandaff, and he was altogether a person of consequence. He died in 1686, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Benedict, London.

LLOYD, ROBERT WATKIN, a native of Shropshire, may be mentioned as a youth of great promise, who at the early age of seventeen held a captaincy in Major-General Gwynne's regiment of cavalry. He was present at the capture of Port-au-Prince in 1794, but fell a victim to the yellow fever in the same year. It is said of him that he had a firm and vigorous mind, and that his life gave promise of a character "which might one day have added lustre to his profession."

LLWYD, EDWARD, who published the *Archaeologia Britannica* in the year 1707, though claimed by the Welsh, is said, upon most authorities, to have been born in Shrop-

shire, 1660. He was sent to Oxford for his education, and is believed to have died in 1709. "I am not an Englishman, but an Ancient Briton," said he in one of his letters, and Mr. Silvan Evans, with true patriotism, avers that he was so by birth and parentage, and then to clench the matter he adds, "Even were it true that he was born near Oswestry, at that time, that district of country was far more Welsh than English." He is generous enough to say that according to the testimony of his nurse, he "was born at Lappington Parish," in other words, *Loppington*, so that we are bound to claim him for a Borderer, and proud to feel that he was sufficiently distinguished to merit this honourable contest for a birth place. We see in the great work he so painfully wrote, compiled, or edited, some indications of the man's character; laborious he was undoubtedly, learned also, patriotic too, for without this last sentiment to urge him on in the vast undertaking he had chosen to devote his life and talents to, he never could have succeeded in gathering together the stores of knowledge which in so short a career he so wholly mastered. His honoured name will long be cherished by men of letters, and had he been a Frenchman, the common people would have been taught to reverence his memory. The good fortune of a Briton has followed him to his grave, for we know that he lived and died among us, and that of course sufficeth where mental greatness is at stake in this country.

LODGE, SIR THOMAS, son of William Lodge, of Cresset, in Shropshire, was chosen an Alderman of London in the year 1553, sheriff in 1559, and Lord Mayor in 1562-3. Strype refers to him as "a magistrate of good courage," mainly because he compelled one Edward Skaggs, purveyor to the Queen, who had imprudently taken twelve of the Mayor's capons for her Majesty's table, to return six of them under the threat of locking him up in Newgate. The Lord Steward took up the quarrel for Skaggs, but Sir Thomas managed to hold his own for a time, although in the end he appears to have been fined for his temerity, and compelled to resign his gown. He died in 1583, and was buried at Aldermanbury Church near to his father-in-law, Sir William Saxton, whose daughter Anne he had married, and by whom he had a son, a dramatic writer contemporary with Shakspeare.

LOWNDES, RALPH, second son of John Lowndes, of Marthall, in Cheshire, was born at Mobberley, in the same county, in the year 1592. In the year 1616, he is said to have settled at Northenden, as curate to William Foster, D.D., one of those exemplary men who in former times secured good livings for themselves, and hired other men to do their work. In this particular instance the parishioners did not suffer much by the arrangement, for "Mr. Lowndes was a good gentleman who served the parish well for a Matter of twenty four yeares and upwards." And, if history does not belie him he became in his time a great student in astrology, and wrote some curious things about the combinations of the heavenly bodies, which gave "Muche satisfaction" to the learned in such matters. The tradition is that he wrote many things, some historical, some religious, and some poetic, but it does not appear that any of his works were published. He died in 1640, and is buried at Northenden.

LUCCOCK, ADAM, "the village sage of Coalbrookdale," was, we are assured, a native of Shropshire, although his forbears, and some of his kindred living in his own day, hailed from Worcestershire. He was but a labouring man, who gained his bread by the sweat of his brow, but living to the patriarchal age of one hundred and three, having in his wise head a keen and observant eye, and

a rare memory for events withal, he carried the local history of Coalbrookdale down to the modern inhabitants of that place for a period extending over 90 stirring years. To him the wise and the simple alike appealed for information, for "heknew all about the landslip at the Birches, the land-flood at the Dale, and of the Derbys and the Reynoldes, who had made the neighbourhood famous in the commercial history of England." In a sense he was the king of the place, the one authority who could speak oracularly from personal knowledge of things long past, and being moreover a sober and truthful man, his judgment was conclusive, and so he became by common consent "the village sage." He lacked but one thing to make him famous—the blessing of a good education, for with that at command, his tradition would have been converted into history. His observations properly applied, the antiquary of this day might have appealed with better confidence to his written testimony than he can do to the diluted edition of it as it reaches him through other channels. He rests in peace under the greensward of the home he loved so well, and we hope to transmit his name to posterity as a worthy of no mean eminence in his own humble way.

LUNT, ROBERT. It has been well said by an ancient writer "the power and prowess of England owes much to the yeoman class, who living honestly and frugally, brought up their children in the love of their country." In the sixteenth century Robert Lunt, a native of Barthomley, Cheshire, acted as under steward to the Fulleshursts. He was born in 1525, and in the sixty-first year of his age he gave evidence in the Court of Wards, on behalf of his landlord. In 1612 he was examined as a witness on behalf of Sir Randolph Crewe, in the Exchequer at Chester, and in 1633 he was again examined at Chester in another suit on the part of the same distinguished gentleman. Of these facts there can be no doubt, and thus we have it well established that good old Robert had lived to the great age of one hundred and eight years; but Mr. Hinchliffe believed that he lived on to 1655 when on the 18th of July in that year he was buried at Barthomley, aged more than one hundred and thirty years. Mr. Richard Llywd, of Chester, had a note in one of his manuscripts to this effect, "Old Robert Lunt, a Cheshire yeoman, was born, bred, and lived in Barthomley, all his life—a life of more than one hundred and thirty summers, and to the very last he enjoyed good health, a sound mind, and a devout soul," a man to be remembered, therefore, and in one sense to be greatly honoured by posterity.

LYDE, NEHEMIAH, born at Hereford in the year 1651, deserves mention as the writer of a curious volume which he published in 1731, entitled, "A narrative of the life of Mr. Richard Lyde, of Hereford." The book itself is far more a record of the author's fitful and busy life, than of his father's. It is made up of stray incidents, a good deal of moral scandal, and abundance of sermonizing thereupon; and although the narrative contained in it is confused, and often badly put together, the writer evidently had seen a good deal of the world, and had in a way of his own marked and digested all he had thus seen. From another source we know that Mr. Lyde was a good, useful, and worthy character, that he had mixed in good society, and according to his lights, had endeavoured to serve the cause of religious liberty at a time when it was dangerous to do so. His chief claim to notice in these records, however, is as an author, and we dismiss him accordingly.

LYDE, RICHARD, born at Hereford in the year 1611, had descended from the genteel family of the Lydes of Lyde; but he himself carried on the business of a goldsmith in his native town. The last-mentioned worthy was his son, and in the volume alluded to above, he professed to

give an account of his father's life; which he does in scraps and patches, but sufficiently clear to show that he was an educated man, honest, able, and pious. He filled the respectable office of Mayor at a time when party feeling ran high at Hereford, he being himself somewhat of a Puritan, rigid and exacting, but so upright in all his dealings as to gain for his name the honourable designation of "the Father of the City." It is certain that he was a praise to all who did well, for by his example and precept, his pure and honest life, his high regard for religion, he commended that which was good and discountenanced all that was evil. He died in 1676, lamented by all classes of the community.

LYME, ROBERT, who claimed his nativity as of Lyme Handley, in Cheshire, was a follower or retainer of Sir Thomas Danyers, at Crecy. He fell upon that bloody field, and his memory has been honoured in one of those romantic lays, where the ancient heroes of our native land have been glorified in song. A look upon the proud Hall of Lyme brings up to our remembrance a host of gallant men who in ages past peopled Shrigley side; the many outlaws who loved to sport in the forest for game, but who cheerfully followed their lords, upon any foreign adventure. Robert Lyme was probably of the number, for we don't find his name recorded upon marble nor his deeds upon brass, but it comes down to us in the manner stated, and we owe him all the more reverence accordingly. Within the Hall itself:—

The storied arras, source of fond delight,
And old achievements, charm the wildered sight;
There, with heraldic pride we find impress,
On the dim window, brave Danyers "pictured crest."

In paying a tribute of fitting honour to the honest retainers of this grand house, we do not forget the many noble sons it sent forth to serve old England in her need. Sweet rest to them all—both masters and men!

STRAY NOTES.

ELLIS MORRIS'S NOTICE.—The following notice is said to have been stuck up "in a principal market town in Salop," in September 1800:—"Lost from Ellis Morris, which he is Under the Necessity of having Her Cryd five Guinea Reward—for Her to Any person as Will Bring Her to Him—Did you see Ever a Horse, and a Black Horse, And Her two Ears Crop, and a Lang tale and White Stars on Her sides from being Hurt by the Saddle Who Ever will bring her to Mr. Ellis Morris shall Receive A Reward of five Guineas Reward As afordside."

MARKET REPORTS FIFTY YEARS AGO.—It is amusing with what naivete our forefathers of the press sometimes reported pocket-picking as part and parcel of fair-trading. Here is a sample taken from the *Oswestry Herald* of May 9th, 1820:—"At Bridgnorth fair on Monday week last, fat cattle (to sink the offal) averaged 6½d. per lb. . . . Fat sheep, of which there was a good show, sold on the average from 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb., shorn ones at from 7½d. to 7¾d. . . . Amongst others the following had their pockets picked:—Mr. Dallow, of Smithies Mill, £17; Mr. Bitterley, of Overton, £14 and upwards; Mr. Bradley, of Abdon, £10, and some silver; Mr. Wall, of Morvill, £7 17s.; a Clothier, upwards of £20, &c., &c." At a still earlier date (*Salopian Journal*, 1800) it is said that "on Saturday last several persons coming to Shrewsbury market were robbed at noon-day on the Stretton road by men smartly dressed and well mounted." By the way, had the farmers going home from market been robbed, they would have proved a better prize, for wheat sold that day at 19s. a bushel!

AUGUST 13, 1879.

NOTES.

SIR WILLIAM MAURICE OF CLENENNEY.

(June 11, 1879).

The following is a copy of a letter from Thomas Bulkeley to Sir Wm. Maurice, Knt., of Clenenney, in Carnarvonshire, written (probably early) in James the First's reign. It is taken from the original at Brogyntyn:—"Before I sealed my letter to yo'r woo'r one told me yo'u had acquaynted his Ma'tie w't some p'phecies in Wealshe w'ch foretolde his cominge to the place he nowe most rightfullie enioyeth, whereof I have scene dyvers, But I have one of Merlin printed in Scottishe at the tyme his highnesse mother was married to the frenche Kyng w'ch p'phecie foreshewed, his Ma'tie the playnest that eaver I sawe anye in any language in these yearie woordes followinge:—

Zit this wickit worlde sall lest bot ane quhile
Quhill a chiftane vnchosin cheis furth him selfe
And ryde over the Regionn and for Roy haldin
Than his S...ires sall sraillle all the faire South
fra Dunbertone to Dover and deill all the landes
he sall hid Conquero'r for he is Kynde Lorde
of all Bertane the boundis to the braid sey
The co'questinge salbe keptit and never co'quest after
Be the coist ze sal knaw quhen the knight cummis
he hes a marche in the middil quhair na man nay will
Quhen he is sette in the Eist quhair the Sonne risis
He is a signe sall schaw on the southe syde
Sign'u de Venenosos sanguine de ventre matris sue &c

The saide p'phecie goeth forwarde and speaketh of griatte mattiers to be done yet by his highnes w'ch yo'u shall see at yo'r retorne home. And this muche by the waye I thoughte good tadvर्टize yo'u & so oftisones bydde yo'u farewell. Yo'r poore cosen, THO: BULKELEY. W.

QUERIES.

CRICKET IN SHROPSHIRE.—As far back as Aug. 1805 I find mention of Cricket in our County, and on the 14th of that month it was stated in one of the Shrewsbury papers, that "A match at Cricket is made for 500 guineas, between the Gentlemen of Shropshire and the Gentlemen of Cheshire; to be played at Atcham on Thursday the 12th of September next." In further issues of the paper I find no record of this match. Can any of your readers say if it ever came off? J. J. R.

REV. GRIFFITH HOWELL.—This gentleman was curate of Llanymynech (1784-1816). In Davies's *Agricultural Survey of North Wales* (p. 177), he is said to have contrived a small drill for sowing any kind of grain, two rows at a time, adapted either for broad intervals, or for equidistant rows of any breadth. It was also contrived so as to scuffle and hoe between the rows. He set up a good lathe at the rectory, and spent much of his time in mechanical pursuits. Richard Roberts, a native of Llanymynech, and one of the late firm of Sharpe, Roberts and Co., Atlas Works, Manchester, received from him his primary instruction in the use of the lathe. Can any reader of *Bye-Gones* say whether anything is known of this clergyman in addition to the above, and were any of his inventions or improvements generally adopted? There is probably much connected with him that would be interesting. LLERTWEF.

REPLIES.

MADAM BAKER OF SWINY (July 30, 1879).—In accordance with my promise I now give such information as I possess on the matters forming the subject of

the letter from "J. M." to Richard Baxter. In the first place, as to Mrs. Baker's financial difficulties from being eaten out of house and home by the preachers. According to Gough of Middle these difficulties arose in her husband's time, and arose from many causes:—

Hee had spent all the money that his father had left him, and, having no child, hee began to consider of an heir to his estate, and first hee designed his sister's son, and to that end sent him to Oxford to learne University reading; but hee proved extravagant, and gott much into debt, and profited nothing in learning, and therefore the uncle payd his debts and cast him off. When hee came home, hee married a wife of noe fortune, and hardly a good name, and this alienated Mr. Baker's affection whooly from him.—(*Memoirs of Middle*, p. 99.) Let me observe in passing that this passage gives a flat contradiction to another assertion in the letter, viz., that Mr. Baker disinherited his nephew because he was a frequenter of the parish church. And to continue Gough's narrative:—

I have not heard that Mr. Baker sold any lands, but hee had contracted much debt, and therefore he ordered some lands to be sold after his death for the payment of debts, which was accordingly done by Mrs. Baker (for shee survived him). The rest descended to my Cozen, Thomas Browne, the yonger, which was Sweeney Hall, and the demeanes, lands in Weston Kin, and houses in Oswaldstre.—(*Ibid.* p. 99).

Had such difficulties arisen in Madam Baker's affairs as those referred to in the letter, Gough must have known of them, and so garrulous a chronicler would have been sure to narrate them. In that age Nonconformists were cruelly persecuted, and no doubt open-house was observed at Sweeney when they met to worship, and the necessities of the poorer sort were relieved by the owner of the mansion, but this practice could scarcely be termed "devouring the spoils of the widow," for it was observed in Mr. Baker's time. Again to quote Gough:—

Hee was a great patron and benefactor to all independent preachers, such as Vavaser Powell, who commonly preached every day in the weeke. I have heard him pray and preach four houres together in the dining roome at Sweeney, where many persons came to heare him; and when the people departed they had everyone a quarter of a twopenny bun or cake, and everyone a glass of beere, of about halfe a pint.

And to say the truth of Mr. Baker hee kept good hospitality, and was very charitable to the poore. Hee seldom changed his servants butt when they married away, and then hee sent them nott away without a reward; butt all this was thought to bee done by the direction of Mrs. Baker.—(*Ibid.* p. 99).

So much for Gough,—Mrs. Baker's difficulties, and Mr. Baker's bigotry. Now for the preachers. The date of the letter is July 20, 1681. In 1662 Timothy Thomas was ejected from the living of Morton, and Rowland Nevet, M.A., from that of Oswestry, by the Act of Uniformity. Of the former Calamy says, "he was chaplain to Mrs. Baker, of Swiney, near Oswestrey, and died in that neighbourhood, 1676." In the *Life of James Owen* (London, Printed for John Lawrence, at the Angel in the Poultry, 1709), it is stated of Owen that:—

In November 1676, he had a Call to Swiney, near Oswestree in Shropshire, where he liv'd with great Acceptance, in the Quality of Chaplain to Madam Baker, a Person of eminent and exact Piety; and ministered in Holy Things to a Congregation of serious People in and about Oswestree, who had for 30 Years enjoy'd the Labours of that worthy Minister of Christ, Mr. Rowland Nevet, who died in Decemb. 1675. (*Life* p. 13.)

From this it would appear that Thomas and Nevet died within a few months of each other, and that their respective places of chaplain to Madam Baker and minister of the congregation at Sweeney, were supplied by Mr. Owen. We are further told in the *Life* that this Independent Church worshipped at Sweeney up to 1791 when it, with its minister, Mr. Owen, migrated to Oswestry, which would be ten years after the difficulties Mrs. Baker

was in, according to "J.M." in his letter to Richard Baxter. Then who were "Hugh P— and Philip ap R—", the preachers of an Independent congregation at Swiney, who sought to "devour" Mrs. Baker? The letter of "J.M." is dated July 20, 1681;—on the 27th Sep. the same year Bishop Lloyd challenged the Nonconformists to a public discussion in the Oswestry Town-hall. In such a case one would have supposed that "Hugh P—" and "Philip ap R—" would have come to the fore, but we find in the *Life of Philip Henry* one account, and in the *Life of James Owen* another, of the discussion itself, wherein no mention is made of any such persons. The Nonconformists were represented by Mr. Owen, Mr. Philip Henry, and Mr. Jonathan Roberts, of Denbighshire, and the Bishop was accompanied by Mr. Henry Dodwell. That Mr. Baker had executors is very probable, and that they should have been Nonconformists is very likely; but there seems to be something exceedingly "fishy" in the fact of a private letter written on private business by a professed friend of "the cause" to one of its leaders in London being printed as a handbill as soon as it was written. We must have a little more light on the matter before we can quite believe its contents. JARCO.

CURRENT NOTES.

THE LATE REV. T. JAMES, M.A., LL.D. (LLALLAWG). This gentleman, whose death we announced last week, was (writes a correspondent) born on the 21st of August, 1817, at the old rectory house of Manordeifi, near Cardigan, county of Pembroke. Little is known of his early years to the writer, but he was curate at Much Wenlock, in Shropshire, for some time, and afterwards held a curacy in Derbyshire, where he stayed until the year 1846, when he was appointed to the incumbency of Netherthong by the late Rev. Lewis Jones, patron. He married, October 22, 1870, Jane, youngest daughter of the late Mr. William Hammett, of Appledore Court, Devon. The year following, he was seized with paralysis, from which he only partially recovered. In the year 1872 his wife had an attack of apoplexy, which terminated fatally in a few hours. For many months past Mr. James was in a very precarious state of health, and it was well-known to those in constant attendance upon him that he could not live much longer. His simple, holy life was a sufficient proof of his goodness of heart. It was his dying wish that the whole of his splendid library should go to the University at Aberystwyth. He thus gave full proof of his lasting love for his native land. His body was interred on the 6th August, at All Saints' Church, Netherthong. Deceased was a valued contributor to our *Bye-gones* column.

MODERN PLOUGHING IN SALOP.—In Nov. 1804, an advertisement appeared in one of the Shrewsbury papers stating that "considerable encouragement" would be given "to a young man of unexceptional character, who understands the modern practice of ploughing with a pair of horses, conducted with reins by the ploughman." Particulars were to be had at the Talbot Inn, Market Drayton.

AN OLD OSWESTRY FARMER.—"We hear that on Friday last, Mr. Tudor, of Pentreclawdd, near Oswestry, distributed a fat cow, value fifteen guineas, amongst the poor of the parish of Sylattin; and at the same time desired they would go to his turnip-field, and take what quantity of turnips they pleased; and it is to be observed that he now sells his grain to them at 10s. per measure. A practice laudable and worthy to be noticed." (See *Salopian Journal*, Dec. 10, 1800).

AUGUST 20, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(July 16, 1879.)

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

It was not until 1635 that the matter of cutting down trees on the Grammar School lands led to an enquiry which ended (see *Bye-gones* Mar. 3, 1875) in The Church supplanting The Council in the management; but the following extract from the Corporation minutes will show that trees were cut down and sold more than twenty years earlier:—

Quinto Novembris. 1613.

Md, that att a gen'rall election houlden the daye and yere abovs'd yt was concluded that the woodes growinge upon the Schoole lands shall be sould to the best pryse by the nowe Bailiffs And the p'rsns undernamed.

John Blodwell gent

Richard Jones gent.

John Goughe gent

Richard Jones of Churchestreete gent.

The moneye receivedd for the said woodes to be layed out for the maintenance of one usher in the schoole whereby the quateraidge maye be abated/ Provided always that two hundredd trees selected by the said Bailiffs & their associats be p'served for the best use of thes'd schoole & towards the continuall rep'rac'on of the same Schoole or for other buildings to be made upon the said lands. To w'ch premisses the nowe chieffe school-master yeldeth his consent.

Tho. Staney } Bailiffs

Theodor Trevor }

Joh: Kyffin scholem'r

John Blodwell

Rich. Jones

Richard Johnes

Richard parrie

Francis Lloyd

Roger ap David

Hugh ap Kadwaladr

Hughe meredd

John ap John

R K Rich. Keelan

Richard marcrofte

Hugh ap John Thomas

Ed.

THE PRINCE'S OAK NEAR LOTON.—More than seven years ago some reference was made to this Oak in *Bye-gones*, but as the first series of that publication is so very scarce, and in so few hands, I think you may venture to repeat what was then published. The information was taken from Parry's *Royal Progresses in Wales*, and is as follows:—

It is a fact not generally known that his Royal Highness George, Prince of Wales, and his brother William, Duke of Clarence, afterwards Kings of England, paid a friendly but flying visit to the Principality. In 1806 they were the guests of Sir Robert Leighton, Bart., of Loton Park, Shropshire for a few days, during which time they received the loyal addresses of the Corporation of Shrewsbury, and visited the nearest point of the Principality, about a mile from Loton, on the road to Llandrinio, where they were received with loud acclamations of the gentry, to whom only the intention of the visit was made known. The Prince of Wales went through the ceremony of planting a young oak on the spot where he and his royal brother first trod upon Welsh ground. The tree is now (1850) in a flourishing state, and is called the "Prince's Tree." It is enclosed within a handsome railing, and a brass plate is fixed thereon with a suitable inscription commemorating the event.

When the business was over, the Prince of Wales plucked a branch of the tree and placed it in his hat, and then returned, on which occasion he was greeted by a goodly number of truly loyal Welshmen, who were proud to see their Prince among them.

The plucking of a branch, mentioned here, was not by the Royal hand or from the young tree, according to the reports of the ceremony, as we shall see anon. Amongst a mass of original letters preserved in the Peniarth Library is the following from Sir Robert Leighton, Bart., to Richard Puleston, Esq., Emral, near Wrexham, which bears the Shrewsbury post mark, and date "Sep. 7, 1806":—

LOTON, Sunday.

Dear Puleston. The Prince of Wales and Duke Clarence come to Loton on Wednesday. I wish you would dine with me on that day. You shall see me the latter end of the week of Oswestry Races, but I do not think I can stay Wrexham Races. I shall thank you for the Bitch, if she is not to large. I shall hope to see you & Emma in the winter—give my love to her.—Ever yours,

R: LEIGHTON.

Mr. Puleston duly accepted the invitation, and also attended the party to plant the tree. When that work was performed, we are told, "Mr. Puleston placed a sprig of oak on the Prince's head, and crowned him King of Wales!" For this off-hand and hearty bit of Loyalty, he afterwards "received permission to bear, as an augmentation to his family crest, an oak tree, having upon its branches an escutcheon charged with the Prince of Wales' plumes."

Mr. Richard Puleston, who was first Major and afterwards Colonel of Sir Watkin's Ancient British Fencibles, was always a popular man with Royalty. He was created a Baronet in 1813. In *Wynnstay and the Wynns* it is stated that when Sir Watkin Williams Wynn was presented to the Prince Regent on his return from France at the conclusion of the war, his Royal Highness said to him—alluding to the magnificent reception accorded him in London—"Surely you must be the Prince of Wales!" "No, your Royal Highness," said Sir Richard Puleston, who was present, "Sir Watkin is the Prince in Wales!"

Sir Richard died 19 May, 1840, at Emral, in his 75th year. He was the representative of a family that had been in possession of the estate from the time of Edward the First.

N.W.S.

QUERIES.

OAKEN GATES WAKES.—I was one day told by an old man that half-a-century ago the "Oaken-Gates Wake" in the parish of Shiffnal, was one of the most celebrated and frequented in the county of Salop. What made it so popular? Had it any special attraction?

H.B.

OSWESTRY WATCHMAKERS.—I recently purchased an old time-piece, in wood frame, suitable for the mantel-piece; the works of which Mr. Hendrick tells me are those of an ordinary verge watch. On the back, at the place where the maker's name is usually put, there is engraved "Belcamp, Oswestry." Who was Belcamp, and when did he reside here?

D.

Willm. Hyfield, Oswestry.—I have an old clock face, in brass, with the above inscription on it. Can any of your readers tell me when and where this "Willm. Hyfield" was in business in Oswestry, as the name appears lost to the present generation.

E.T.

[We have seen both of the above; and it strikes us as not improbable that in the last-mentioned the name of the owner, and not that of the maker, is engraved. The letters are very bold, and deeply cut, on the upper part of the disc.—Ed.]

REPLIES.

OLD COACHING DAYS (July 2, 1879).—As a specimen of the facilities for locomotion afforded to our forefathers ninety-one years ago, I send you a verbatim copy of an advertisement taken from the *Chester Chronicle* of March 7th, 1788. It is quite a curiosity in its way, and worth preserving—

CHESTER, SHREWSBURY, BATH AND BRISTOL

New and elegant

POST-COACH,

With four horses,

by way of Wrexham and Ellesmere,

Began running on Monday, the 3rd of March, 1788, from Mr. Laurence's, the Lion inn, Salop, to Mr. Paul's, the Lion inn, Chester, and will continue three times a week, viz., Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, setting out precisely at eight in the morning, and meets, at Mr. Paul's, the Holyhead, Parkgate, Liverpool, and Manchester coaches, also the royal mails to London, the post-coach and machines.

Fares in the Shrewsbury coach, insides 13s. 6d.; outsides, 7s. Insides allowed 14lb. of luggage, outsides 7lb.—all above one penny a pound.

The public are respectfully informed that no pains or expence will be spared (to render the above coach in every respect convenient, expeditious, and safe)

by their obedient, humble servants,

T. SIDEBOTHAM, Wrexham.

J. PRICE, Ellesmere.

Fares in the coaches to Holyhead, £1 11s. 6d., To Parkgate, 3s. 6d.; New Ferry, 5s.; Eastham, 3s. 6d.; Preston Brook, 4s.; Ditto in the London mail, £3 3s.; Post Coach, £2 2s.; Machine, 41 6s.

The proprietors of the respective coaches above-mentioned, cannot be accountable for any parcel, above £5 value, unless entered and paid for as such.

Three or four commodious and well-built packets sail from Parkgate every week.

What were the "Machines" alluded to above?

LANDWOR.

BABBINS WOOD (July 2, 1879).—Owen and Blakeway remark that some people have thought that the murder of the two children by their cruel uncle, which gave rise to the ballad of *The Babes in the Wood* was perpetrated in Babby's Wood, near Whittington. The scene of that crime, however, was in Norfolk. They add "In Saxton's, and Speed's maps it is written Babinwood. Wood's is the first that has Babby's, and Kitchen, Babb; but Bavin's wood is the true name as it is given in Baugh's map. A 'bavin' is a faggot, and it denotes the low copice, of which that wood consisted. A similar reason has given name to Baveney-wood, in the parish of Neen Savage" (*History of Shrewsbury*, 1825, volume I, page 563).

R.E.D.

Shrewsbury.

AUGUST 27, 1879.

NOTES.

BARMOUTH WRECKERS.—"A letter from Barmouth, in North Wales," says a Shrewsbury paper of March 1805; "Mentions the loss of a ship, supposed to be a foreigner. She went down seven miles from shore, and every person on board perished. The country people there are notorious for plundering wrecks, but the commander of a body of Volunteers, 60 in number, assembled and succeeded in saving 90 pipes of port wine, and many other articles." When the letter was written they had been four days and nights on this duty. The Volunteers, as you have shown on April 2, 1879, in *Bye-gones*, were at

their prime about this period, and that, a year later, Barmouth possessed 71 Amateur Soldiers, under the command of Capt. Edward Roberts, G.G.

WHITTINGTON CHURCH. — Restorations of Churches are too often an offence to good taste, even where the architects into whose hands the work is placed are not local nobodies. Half-a-century ago the rebuilding of a church meant, too often, the substitution of a building offensive to good taste and inconvenient for worship. The following advertisement from the *Salopian Journal* of Nov. 20. 1805, refers to a case in point:—"Whittington Church. Any person or persons desirous of contracting for the taking down and rebuilding Whittington Church; or any bricklayer, joiner, carpenter, slater, and glazier, willing to contract for the several parts of it, are hereby required to send in their proposals to Mr. John Venables, of the White Lion, in Whittington aforesaid, where plans and specifications of the building may be seen; on or before Thursday, the 28 day of Nov. inst. N.B. One hundred and fifty thousand brick, and a sufficient quantity of foreign timber, are already provided." A pretty mess they made of it. Archdeacon Ffoulkes, the new rector, has already been instrumental in rebuilding one church: will he interest himself in another? He will be doing a good work—if he is careful in the selection of his architect.

PERWY.

QUERIES.

NAME OF AUTHOR WANTED.—Who is the author of the poetical and often quoted, but ungrammatical, couplet:—

"Aflonydd dwrf olwynion

A drystant ym mhalmant Mon?"

IDNERTH.

JOHN CROXTON.—In May, 1805, died John Croxton, at Hope Bowlder, Salop, at the age 91. "During the course of his long life he had not resided in any other place more than one week at a time, and had been parish clerk there upwards of sixty years." Was he a native of the county? Croxton is not a familiar Shropshire name, but there was one of the name associated with the siege of Oswestry I believe.

SCROBBES BYRIC.

The Croxton Family.—Mr. Salisbury, in his *Border Counties Worthies*, has mentioned one member of this family, but I am told that there were several of them equally deserving of notice. They flourished at Ravenscroft in Cheshire, in parts of Shropshire, and in Flintshire, and, according to a document I once saw, they could make out a fair pedigree from 1239 to the end of the seventeenth century. If any one can mention some of the more distinguished gentlemen of the name, I shall feel obliged.

ANTIQUARY.

REPLIES.

SHROPSHIRE WORD-BOOK (July 23, 1879). *Oswestry Words*.—I quite hope that the publication of Pt. I. of the *Shropshire Word-Book* will elicit a good deal of information which I shall be able to make use of in Pts. II. and III., by collating it with "copy" or "proofs." I shall be extremely obliged if FAR AWAY will send to my address a list of such words as I may recollect being used about Oswestry, that so, that "district" may be more distinctively represented in my Glossary.

13, White Friars, Chester. GEORGINA F. JACKSON.

VOLUNTEER ARMY OF 1804 (July 23, 1879). On Feb. 5, 1879, you gave E. Croxton and W. H.

Newenham as Lieutenants of the *Oswestry Artillery* in 1803-4. Whether they resigned or not I cannot tell, but in a newspaper of the period I find "Edward Edmunds and Thomas Downes, gents," appointed Lieutenants. On March 22, 1805, the remains of Mr. Thomas Wynn, saddler, of Oswestry, a private in the Volunteer Artillery, were buried with military honours. JARCO.

LLANYCIL CHURCH (July 23, 1879).—At the time I copied the Vaughan inscription I also copied the following, which is on a stone not far from the other:—"Edward Dafydd Llwyd, 1649," and beneath a couple of letters that look like "F I" or "F.F." or "E.F.," with the date "1716." Can any of your readers explain this, and tell us who the parties were? BONWM.

In connection with Llanycil Church, though not concerning the monumental inscription, let me note that in the new edition of the *Gossiping Guide to Wales* it is stated that in the church are "some good and solid 'bench ends,' probably of the fifteenth century, which have been copied in the restoration of Llanegryn Church," near Towyn. I am glad to see, from what "E.B." says, that the church is not to be "Restored" for I have little faith in Restorationists, as far as I know them, and it will be no harm that "Repairs" should be made alive to the fact that our old churches sometimes contain something else besides rubbish. M.C.A.S.

ADERYN-Y-CORPH (Jan. 30, 1878).—The following account of Corpse Candles in Wales is extracted from Mr. Baxter's "Certainty of the World of Spirits; fully evinced by unquestionable Histories of Apparitions, Witchcrafts, &c."

These in our language, we call "Canhywllan Cyर्थ." We call them candles, because that light doth much resemble a material candlelight, saying, that when one comes near them, they vanish, but presently appear again. If it be a little candle, pale or blewish, then follows the corpse either of an abortive, or some infant; if a big one, then the corpse of some one come of age; if there be seen two or three, or more—some big, some small together—then so many, and such corpses together. If two candles come from divers places, and be seen to meet, the corpses will do the like; if any of these candles be seen to turn sometimes a little out of the way that leadeth unto the church, the following corpse will be found to turn in that very place, for the avoiding of some dirty lane, &c.

This is given as the "Account of the Rev. Mr. Davies" on the subject, and the reverend gentleman goes on further with his personal experiences in the matter, thus:—

When I was about fifteen years of age, dwelling at Llanylar late at night, some neighbours saw one of these candles hovering up and down along the bank of the river, until they were weary in beholding; at last they left it so and went to bed. A few weeks after a damsel from Montgomeryshire came to see her friends, who dwelt on the other side of the river Istwyth, and thought to ford it at the place where the light was seen; but being dissuaded by some lookers on, (by reason of a flood), she walked up and down along the bank, where the aforesaid candle did, waiting for the falling of the water; which at last she took; and was drowned therein.

Another instance, which Mr. Davies says occurred thirty years previous to his date of writing, is still more marvellous. His wife's sister, one Jane Wyat,

being nurse to Baronet Rudd's three eldest children, and the lady-controller of the house, going late into a chamber where the maid-servants lay, saw there no less than five of these lights together. It happened awhile after, the chamber being newly plastered, and a fire therein kindled to dry up the plastering, that five of the maid-servants went to bed, as they were wont; but in the morning they were all dead, being suffocated in their sleep with the steam of the newly-tempered lime and coal. This was at Llangathan in Carmarthenshire.

I am indebted for these extracts to an *Arminian Magazine* of 1783. SCEPTIC.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (July 2, 1879).—A century ago (says the correspondent of a Shrewsbury paper in Jan. 1839) our ancestors were contented to travel to London by a conveyance called the *Gee-ho*, drawn by eight horses, and occupying as many days to complete the journey. What a wonder-ful astonishment would they have felt, could they have been informed that such an event may possibly soon take place in as many hours. *Wonders*, it is said, never cease, yet it seems from the following parody in the *New Sporting Magazine*, that the inhabitants on the line between Shrewsbury and the Metropolis must seek other than a *Wonder Coach* to convey them thither.

Farewell from the Shrewsbury "Wonder" to the Public.

Farewell! but whenever you travel my road,
(If 'twixt London and Shrewsbury lies your abode,) Then think on the coach that for years used to go,
More than ten miles an hour till the rail-road cried wo!
All the drags may be floored; not a coach may remain
Of the few that now travel the highway for gain—
But folks ne'er will forget the fast *Wonder* that strew
The dust in these faces as by them it flew.

And still in the evening, when coachmen fill up
Their glasses of grog, as together they sup,
In whose'er's yard I stand—Nelson, Chaplin, or Cripps,
My inside shall be with you that night, jolly whips,
Shall join in your laughter, your jokes, and your cheer,
And return to me smelling of backy and beer;
Too blest if it tell me, that mid the gay crowd
Some voice hoarsely murmured—the rail-roads be blow'd.

Let steam do her worst! there are swells on the road,
Whose slap-up four-in-hands she can never explode,
Who pull up their teams, in the morn about four,
From Richmond, or Hounslow, at Limmers' door;
Long, long may such swells drags continue to build,
Like myself, that once inside, and outside, was fill'd,
You may smash, you may knock me to bits if you will,
But the name on my panels will, *Wonder*, be still.

The career of "The *Wonder*" coach is well worth narrating in the pages of *Bye-gones*. JEHU.

CHURCH BELLS (Sep. 26, 1877).—*Towyn*.—Inscriptions on the three present bells:—Cast at Gloucester by Abel Rudhall, 1759.—Prosperity to this parish 1759.—May the Church flourish.—There was formerly a bell there, stated to have been re-cast. It contained originally the following inscription: "Mae crie Mare." This probably was broken when the central tower fell, in 1692, and it may be supposed was the great bell whose sound is said to have been audible at Cwm Rhwyfwr, beyond the lake of Talyllyn. Rudhall mentioned above was a very celebrated bell founder of his day. W.

WELSH AGRICULTURAL MEETING IN 1819.—Among the premiums distributed at the Carnarvonshire Agricultural Meeting on the 26th September, 1819, three were given to farmers for ploughing with two horses abreast, and to their ploughmen; also two premiums to tenants for clearing rough land of stones, and by hand-digging, &c., making it productive. A new premium was proposed for the next year, viz., to the acting surveyor of parish roads who made the greatest improvements in the same.

PENINSULA HEROES.—A story is told in the *Gents' Mag*: for June, 1819, of a troop of the 7th Hussars calling at the Marquis of Anglesey's house near Lichfield, on their march to Manchester. They were received by the Marquis, who had a wooden leg; his brother, minus an arm; his son, on crutches; and his daughter who had lost a hand! All these misfortunes had been caused by the fortunes of war—even that of the lady's, for she lost it while attending her husband in one of the battles in Spain.

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WELSHPOOL.

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of this Association was opened at Welshpool, on Monday, August 25th. A meeting of the Committee of the Association was held at eight o'clock p.m., and at half-past eight the public meeting was held in the Town Hall. In the absence of the President, the Bishop of St. David's, the chair was taken by Professor C. C. Babington (the Chairman of the Committee). Amongst those present was the President-Elect, Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn, M.P., the Mayor of Welshpool, Mr. Parker, the Rev. Prebendary Davies, Mr. M. H. Bloxam, Mr. Ernest Hartland, Mr. R. H. Wood, Rev. E. L. Barnwell; the Secretaries, the Rev. J. E. Hill, Vicar of Welshpool, and the Rev. D. R. Thomas, Vicar of Meifod; Rev. D. P. Lewis, Vicar of Guilsfield; Secretary for Montgomeryshire, the General Secretaries of the Association, Rev. R. Trevor Owen, and Mr. G. E. Robinson, Cardiff; Secretary of the Powysland Club, Mr. Morris Jones, &c., &c. Several ladies were also present.

The CHAIRMAN in opening the proceedings read an extract from a letter he had received from the Bishop of St. David's, in which his lordship expressed himself as sincerely sorry that he was unable to attend the opening meeting of the Association at Welshpool. The Bishop took so great an interest in the Association that nothing but unavoidable necessity would have prevented him coming there to resign the chair to his worthy successor in person. He had honoured the Association by being President on two occasions at very short intervals. He thus showed how much interest he took in it. No doubt his lordship had found an immense deal to do on his return home from attendance in Parliament. They knew that a bishop's duties, which were very heavy, accumulated largely during his absence from his diocese. He (the Chairman) rejoiced that they had met in that town again after an interval of very many years. At their previous visit they had four or five days of torrents of rain and waters, so they were not able to have more than one excursion in consequence of the state of the weather. The weather now looked more promising than it did a few days ago, and he trusted they would be able to carry out the excursions which had been planned in that neighbourhood. When the Society came to Welshpool before, he himself stayed a week afterwards and looked round the neighbourhood at his leisure, and as the weather became more propitious he found how much there was of interest there, and also in the neighbourhood of Newtown. The country was therefore not so new to him as it was to many of their friends who had come from a distance. He would now introduce to them Mr. Wynn who did not need any introduction except in his capacity as president, and who would take the chair in his place. (Cheers.)

Professor Babington then vacated the chair, and it was taken by Mr. Wynn.

The incoming PRESIDENT then delivered his inaugural address. He said: Ladies and gentlemen,—I cannot do better in commencing my address than supplement what has fallen from the representative of the Bishop of St. David's by reading a letter I have received from his lordship:—"I beg you believe it is a matter of sincere regret to me that I am unable to attend the Cambrian Archæological meeting at Welshpool, to hand over in person the office of president you are so good as to undertake. I trust that an arrangement will be made to represent me on that occasion, and I wish you a very pleasant and

prosperous meeting." (Cheers.) If anything could add to the difficulty I feel in occupying this chair, it would be that I am succeeding a man so eminently capable of doing honour to the position as the Bishop of St. David's. I suspect that many of those who have found themselves placed, almost against their will, in a position to which they have no special claim, have shared the feelings which now possess me in addressing an audience, most of whom are probably better acquainted with the special objects of the meeting than I can pretend to be, and that they have wished that the difficulty might be solved by the simple process of confining the inaugural address of the President to the announcement of the formal opening of the Congress, leaving some working and efficient member of the Council to supplement this bare declaration by a more detailed statement of the peculiar claims of the locality chosen for our assembly upon your attention. I regret as much on your account as on my own that the accumulated stores of antiquarian knowledge and information gathered during a long life by a father cannot be handed down like an estate to the son. Had I my father's intimate acquaintance with the history and folk lore of this county, I might indeed have hoped to lay before you some points connected with its archæological and local annals, that would not be unworthy of your interest and attention. But, having been selected, however unworthily, to preside over the meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association this year, I feel I should be wanting in respect to its members and to those visitors who have honoured us with their presence this evening, if, after giving them all in the first place a hearty welcome to our county, I did not endeavour to draw their attention for a few minutes to some of the special claims of the locality to their notice and examination. Many years have passed since the Cambrian Archæological Association held its Congress in this town. In the interval that has elapsed death has caused many gaps in our list of associates but many others must have grown up to years of discretion, and we will hope have become good archæologists. Montgomeryshire, as part of Powys-land, may be considered first in its relation to Gwynedd, North Wales, and Dyfed, South Wales, as a border land, nearest adjacent to England, and involved in continued difficulties with the Lords of the Marches. Its history is therefore more intimately involved in their struggles and intrigues than that of any other county, and yielding to the continued coercion of the superior powers it was one of the first to lose its independence. Its antiquities tell of still earlier struggles and a harder stand for freedom. British camps and dykes are the most common feature. If you will only cast your eye over an ordnance map of the district you will see that although every hill top has its camp, some small for hasty defence, some extensive for more general refuge, but all aptly described by Tacitus in his annales, xii, 31, "*locum pugne delegere, septum agresti aggere, et aditū angusto.*" Such are the camps on the Breidden, at Kerry, on the Long Mountain, and Meifod. Mr. Wynne of Peniarth writes to me that he considers that on the south side of the Severn, opposite Llanllwchaearn, as one of the most perfect he ever inspected. Crowther's Camp, near this town, a little above the Abbey of Strata Marcella, has also yielded a plentiful harvest of weapons, ornaments, and other antiquities to its noble owner, which you will have an opportunity of examining on our visit to Powis Castle on Thursday. For a more detailed account of these I should refer you to a paper by Mr. Barnwell in the third volume of the Montgomeryshire Collections. Great dykes or cloddian are also frequent, and cut off the approaches by the valleys, as on the Kerry Hills, at Ystym Colwyn, and at Offa's Dyke. The ap-

proaches to the regal palace and fortress of Mathraval are also guarded by a perfect net-work of camps and dykes. Of Roman Camps and roads there is no lack. Some of these are earlier, some later, than the remains of that at Caersws. Among these may be mentioned the Gaer, near Montgomery, Gaerfawr, and Clawdd Coch. Roman roads appear to have radiated from Caersws, and there were others leading to the disputed and uncertain locality in which Mediolanum is to be found. Moated mounds are also frequent. These were probably the residences of subordinate chieftains later than the camps, but earlier than the moated houses. These last appeared to have been formed with the idea of draining and drying the site, not of defence. There is a good example on the site of the old Vicarage at Meifod, one at Guilsfield, and another at Wattlesborough. Tumuli are numerous on the hills and are known in Welsh as Tomenau or Tymps, but none of them appear to have been systematically opened. They are apparently all round ones, so that there is no room for controversy as to how they are to be classified. Meini Hirion, or erect stones, are also numerous, but none of them are known to bear inscriptions. The earliest inscribed stone is to be seen in the churchyard at Llanerfyl, and the earliest sculptured stone in the church of Meifod. Both are engraved by Professor Westwood in the last part of his *Lapidarium Wallie*. The examination of Tumuli and erect stones is a great desideratum as far as this county is concerned, and it may yet throw light on many doubtful and obscure points. The nomenclature of the county also deserves a passing word. In addition to its ordinary descriptive character, it has here two other interesting features, indicative of very primitive times. (1st.) Animals, as Afon Twrch (boar), Banw (sow), Moch (pig), Colwyn (badger), Nant yr ast (bitch), Cathau (cats). (2nd.) Historical, Bwlch Aeddau, Llanerch Frochwel, Clawdd Llesg (query Eliseg?) Tre-elystan, Mach Beuno, Fridd Faldwyn, Tomen Madoc, Fridd St. John. Besides these names, come those of the founders of churches; as Tysilio, Cadvan, Gwyddfarch, Cynfelyn, Garmon, Gwynog, and others. The churches of the old type are fast disappearing and the curious old wooden belfry is being superseded by the stone tower and spire. Amongst the more notable examples are, however,—of wood, with wattle and dab,—Trelystan, and Melverley;—Pre-Norman—a piece of arcade in Meifod Church;—Norman,—Meifod, Llandrinio, Llanfechain. [This church is remarkable as having no east window, but only three very narrow lancets in the east end.]—Early English,—Montgomery, Chirbury. Arcade in Llanidloes. Decorated,—Welshpool, Guilsfield (a beautiful oak ceiling), recently restored under the auspices of Mr. Street, mainly through the munificence of Capt. Mytton and the Earl of Powis; Perpendicular,—Guilsfield (outer fabric),—Llanidloes roof.—Rood screens are numerous and beautiful. Those at Newtown, Pennant Melangell, Llanwnnog, Llangurig, and Llangyniew, are specially worthy of notice. [See Mr. Walker's account and drawings of them in the 3rd and following vols. of Montgomeryshire Collections.] Shrine at Llanerfyl—effigies at Montgomery, Pennant, Llanfair, in the Museum (from Berriew). A brass at Bettws. Wooden houses, commonly called half-timbered, are frequent and some of important size—Marrington, Lymore Park, Llyssin (said to have been the residence of Lord Herbert of Chirbury), Llandinam Old Hall, Penrhos, Pontyscowrhyd, and many other considerable ones which have lapsed into farm houses. Monastic Associations;—Nunneries of Llanllugan and Pennant;—Cistercian Abbey of Strata Marcella, Ystrad Marchell;—For hospitality, cells of the Commandery of St. John of Jerusalem, at Llan-

wddyn, Carno, and Tregynon, and at Ysppyty Evan, on the very borders of Powys-land.—I see that on Tuesday an excursion is set down for one division of our party to the Breidden. With reference to the latter, I would recall to the recollection of those that have read it, and to the notice of those who have not, a very able paper, in the *Archæologia Cambrensis* for the year 1851, by Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes, upon the long disputed question of the locality of the last stand made by our brave countryman, Caractacus, against the Roman legions, which site Mr. W. Ffoulkes believes (and gives sound reasons for his belief) to have been on the north side of the Breidden. Assembled as we are beneath its very shadow, the mediæval object of most interest is the Red Castle of Powys, which we are invited to visit on Thursday. Wenwynwyn, Prince of Upper Powys, a descendant of Rhodri Mawr, is stated to have occupied and enlarged it after the death of Cadwgan ap Bledlyn ap Cynfyn, who built it. He transmitted it for his son Griffith and his grandson Owen, who resided there as sovereign princes. Owen's daughter, Hawys Gadarn, who claimed the succession to the Principality, was opposed by her four uncles on the ground of her sex. She appealed to the English king, Edward II., and was by him given in marriage to John de Charlton, whom the king ennobled as lord of Powys. Joan, the daughter of Edward de Charlton, a subsequent Lord of Powys, having married Grey, Earl of Tankerville, transmitted the lordship and castle of Powys to her son Henry, Earl of Tankerville. It remained in the family of the Greys till sold by the then possessor to Edward Herbert, second son of the Earl of Pembroke, who was created Lord Powis in 5th of Charles I. Henrietta Antonia, Countess of Powis, was the representative of the Duke of Powis (so created by James I. after his abdication)—through her mother Barbara, daughter and heiress of William Herbert, third and last Duke, and in her united three other lines of descent of the Herberts. Her father, Henry, Earl of Powis, was a direct descendant of Wenwynwyn, Prince of Powys. She married Edward, son of Robert, the great Lord Clive, and thus the present Earl of Powis is the representative of both families. We read in Leland's "Itinerary" which was written in the reign of Henry VIII., that this fortress had formerly had two separated and distinct wards, belonging to different owners, one of whom was the Lord Dudley of the day. This would seem to be a very uncomfortable joint ownership, if the two proprietors chanced to take different sides in any of the public or domestic feuds that were then so frequently arising. In Leland's time the Castle belonged to the Lord Powys, and I will read to you what he says:—"By the Castell is a fair paled park. Betwixt the town and Castell Gough is a pretty llyn or pool whereof the Towne taketh name. The Towne itself the Walsh Pole is of one Paroche, well builded after the Welsh fashion. Gledding, a rivulet, cometh almost by the Church, and so to Severn." But to describe and illustrate the history of Powis Castle would be to write that of Gwynedd and Powysland entire. Would that its noble owner would himself contribute to the pages of the journal that takes its name from his inheritance, an account worthy of the theme and of his own varied and accurate erudition!—Guilsfield Church also stands in the programme of this day's expedition, and will well repay the attention of those who inspect it. It has been extensively and carefully restored, as I have said before, within the last eighteen months. I hope on Friday to have the pleasure of welcoming as many members of the Cambrian Archæological Association, and of the Powysland Club as feel disposed to come, at Coed-y-

Maen. On their road to Meifod they will pass an important camp, Bwlch Aeddau, also a dyke at Clawdd Llesg, (? Eliseg, whose pillar in Valle Crucis commemorated him, erected by Cyngen, great grandson of Eliseg, sixth in descent from Brochwel Ysgythrog) that deserves attention. Close to this is a small spring issuing from the side of the hill, to which even now almost miraculous powers of healing are ascribed by the inhabitants of the country for miles around. A rude shed has been built over it, and I have been told that even within living memory votive offerings of crutches, &c., no longer required, used to be seen suspended on the walls, similar to those at Holywell. A patch of ground between this and Penylan bears the name of Lord Cobham's garden, and is reported to have been the scene of the capture of Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, in 1418, who had been implicated in the Lollard conspiracy. He was taken prisoner here, removed to London, and there executed, being hung alive in chains, while a fire was lit under him. Of him Fuller says, "Thus died the great Lord Cobham, and as this was the first noble blood that was shed in England on account of religion by Popish cruelty, so, perhaps, never any suffered a more cruel martyrdom." By a charter still in the possession of Captain Mytton, one of the descendants of Sir Gruffydd Vychan, Edward de Charleton grants to Sir Gruffydd Vychan, and to Ieuan ap Gruffydd, his brother, for aid in the capture of Cobham, all their lands in the lordship of Strata Marcella, rendering for service one barbed arrow on the feast of St. John Baptist. Some of you will doubtless extend your wanderings from hence across the river to the bold hill which faces you, and which goes by the name of Allt yr Aneur, or the Anchorite's Hill. There are traces of a British (not Roman) camp on its west side, and some curious shallow wells dug in the rock for the supply of the small garrison. Who the Anchorite was from whom the hill takes its name is a matter of conjecture, not certainty, but the Vicar is disposed to identify him with Gwyddfarch, the first founder of the Church. Meifod itself offers but little to arrest your attention unless it be the church. During the process of removing a false ceiling of comparatively recent date, and laying open the old timbered roof, traces of fresco work were visible on the plaster above the east window, which Mr. Ferrey, the architect who superintended the restoration, was disposed to assign to a date not later than the 13th century. But the present east window, some three centuries later, which probably supplanted three narrow lancet ones like those at Llanfechain, had obliterated so much of the figures, and damp and decay had effaced so much more, that there was only a trace remaining. Your attention will be directed to a curious stone coffin lid in the church, and also to a piece of Norman arcade and a column, which clearly belonged to a different and earlier fabric than the present, and which were accidentally brought to light by the falling of some plaster during the recent work of restoration. Mr. Ferrey assigns these to the first church, St. Tysilio, and to a date certainly anterior to 1154, when St. Mary's Church in Meifod is stated in the "Brut y Tywysogion" to have been consecrated. Meifod was supposed at one time to have been the site of the Roman station at Mediolanum, and traces of Roman work have certainly been found at Mathral. But those who wish to see this subject fully discussed must be referred to a paper in the 9th vol. of the Montgomeryshire Collections, where the late vicar, Canon Wynne Edwards, enters minutely into the arguments, pro and con. I may here mention that a very rare work, I may say unique in its perfect state, Griffith Roberts's Welsh grammar, bears the imprint of Mediolanum, and that Sir A. Panizzi, the librarian of the British Museum,

stoutly contended to the end, with my father, to whom the book belonged, that it was printed (I think about 1620) in Mediolanum here, and not at Milan. Though himself an Italian, he wished the origin of the volume to be as Welsh as its subject. On your road from Meifod to Llanfair you will pass the site of the old castle of Mathral, the palace of the Princes of Powys. It overhangs the banks of the Banw, and a lovelier position for palace or castle could hardly be found, even in this county, so abounding with charming sites. To this spot the Princes of Powys, when vanquished by Offa, King of Mercia, bent their sorrowing footsteps, and towards the close of the eighth century built or enlarged the castle. The walls comprised an area of upwards of two acres, and for 400 years it was the seat of Government, paying an annual tribute, however, of four tons of honey to the Prince of Gwynedd. Rhodri Mawr was the first occupant of the regal residence, and here, in later generations, Meredydd ap Bleddyn divided his kingdom into Upper and Lower Powys. But its most celebrated possessor was perhaps Owen Cyfeiliog, eminent as Prince, lawgiver, poet, and orator; and here he dwelt till he retired to his own Abbey of Ystrad Marchell, and became a monk. To those who have become acquainted with the already half forgotten poets of the early part of this century, the name of Mathral will at once recall Southey's noble poem of "Madoc," whose opening scenes are laid here. Robert de Vipont, the Norman chieftain who held the castle for King John, was besieged here by the Prince of Gwynedd, in 1212. John himself was at Bristol at the time, but sending immediate succours of men and money, and following himself with all speed, raised the siege on the 7th day after he received the intelligence of its investment, a creditable operation of war as it would be in these days even, but marvellous in its celerity when the state of the country at that time is considered. From this palace appears to have issued the charter rewarding Ieuan ap Gruffydd and his brother, Sir Griffith Vaughan, for their share in the capture of Lord Cobham, to which I have before alluded. I fear it is not likely that any of our members will extend their wanderings as far as Llanwyddyn, the village which a speculative company purposes to drown out, and to make the foundation of a gigantic reservoir for the supply of Liverpool with water. But a little above this village is a remarkable spot, which may be worth commemorating.—Bwlch-y-Pant, the boundary of Powysland, on the old direct road from Bala to Machynlleth, was the established place of arbitration by the Prince of Powis, in any dispute that arose between Gwynedd and Dyfed. On Saturday I observe that an excursion is set down for us to Montgomery, where the parish church, and remains of the old castle, together with the half-timbered houses in Lymore Park, all claim our attention. It was curious that in the Domesday Survey, the castle is placed in the Hundred of Witentren, in the county of *Salop*. Roger (Corbet), Lord or Earl of Montgomery, is represented as holding four plough lands, and as having himself built a castle, and called it Montgomery. The record goes on to state that in the reign of King Edward the Confessor, Senuar, Ozlac, and Azor, had held thirty-two and a half hides of land adjacent to the castle or hunting ground. Whether the Baldwin, whose name is retained in the present appellation of the county (Trefaldwyn) was a lieutenant of Earl Roger's or not is a moot point, but this much is certain: that Montgomery, like Whittington, Oswestry, Carreghwfa, on to Causer, Clun, and Ludlow, was one great chain of strong places, erected along the border of the marches, for the maintenance and security of the

English Power, against the incursions of the Welsh. The first Montgomery Castle was destroyed by our ill-subdued ancestors, and the garrison left in it by Earl Hugh, Roger's successor, was put to the sword. It was recovered by William Rufus in 1095, and probably granted to Earl Hugh's brother Robert, but it is not mentioned among the castles held by him at the time of his ruin and banishment in 1102. The Earldom of Montgomery having now lapsed to the Crown, was augmented by part of the adjacent lordship of Chirbury, and was granted by Henry I. to Baldwin de Bollers. He and his successor held it till 1232, when King Henry III. granted the castle to Roger L'Estrange. A short time previous to this, the King had himself taken in hand the restoration and completion of the castle, and had spent a very considerable amount in so doing. He himself seems to have been there in 1224, and the masonry now standing is of this date. It was next granted to Hubert de Burgh, and in 1245 was attacked by the Welsh under Prince David, when it appears to have received considerable injury. In 1267 King Henry met Prince Llewelyn and received his homage. In 1274 Edward summoned Llewelyn to meet him at Chester and take the oath of allegiance, but Llewelyn excused himself on the plea of personal danger, and soon after Edward intercepted Llewelyn's promised bride, Eleanor, the daughter of the Earl of Leicester, on her voyage from France to meet her affianced husband. Two years after this Llewelyn offered to attend either at Montgomery or Oswestry and do homage, if assured of safe conduct, but Edward dismissed him as a rebel, and summoned all his military tenants to arms. Llewelyn then made peace at the price of a fine of about £50,000, and Edward gave to Roger Mortimer the Castles of Kerry, Cedewen, and Dolforwyn, as Constable. Four years after, the strife again began, and Llewelyn was killed in a skirmish near Bulth, by Adam de Francon. The town was sacked by Glendower on one of his predatory excursions, and the suburbs of Welshpool were burnt by him at the same time. Dolforwyn Castle, four or five miles nearer Newtown, and on the opposite bank of the Severn, is said to have been built by the great Prince of Powys, Bleddyn ap Cynfyn, between 1065 and 1073. We read that in 1274 "about Low Easter, Llewellyn, son of Gruffydd, visited the Castle of Dolforwyn, and he summoned the son of Gwenynwyn, whom he upbraided for the deceit and disloyalty he experienced from him, and took from him Arustli, and thirteen townships of Cyfeiliog, and took Owen, his eldest son, and carried him away with him to Gwynedd." The Castle was besieged in 1277 by the Earl of Leicester and Roger Mortimer, and surrendered in a fortnight for want of water. The importance, however, of these castles along the marches, as bulwarks against the Welsh, was much diminished, if not entirely annulled by the conquest of the Principality under Edward I. Towards the close of the thirteenth century Bogo de Kuoville was appointed constable, and had a grant from Edward I. of timber from the adjacent forest of Corndon for the repairs of the castle and town walls and gates. In 1582 Roger Mortimer was created "Earl of March in the Marches of Wales," but having been accused of obtaining exorbitant grants of the Royal demesnes, among which was Montgomery Castle, he was impeached by the Parliament, and hanged, without trial, near London. The effigies of the members of the latter family will be found in Montgomery Church. A detailed and very interesting account of the Castle, from the pen of Mr. Sandford will be found in the tenth volume of the Montgomeryshire Collections, which I recommend to such of our members as possess it as a capital

handbook for our expedition of Saturday. And now, having, I fear at too great length, touched upon some of the items of our programme which appear to me to be especially worthy of your attention, I will conclude as I have begun, with a repetition of our hearty welcome to our visitors, and will venture to sum up my remarks in the words of a leading article in the *Times* last week on the meeting of a kindred society at Norwich. The hon. gentleman after giving an extract from the article sat down amidst cheers.

Professor BABINGTON said he had been asked to do what was a pleasure to him, because he knew it would meet with their approval, and that was to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Wynn for his interesting address. He did not ask them to criticize it, he did not think it admitted of criticism, but it seemed as far as he could judge, to be most excellent. (Cheers.) He was sure they would be thankful to see it in print in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, in order that they might read it carefully, and obtain a great deal more information from it than they could do on that occasion. He need say nothing more but would simply move a vote of thanks to their President for his address.

Mr. M. H. BLOXAM, in seconding the vote of thanks, said that being a perfect stranger there, he might be allowed to refer to the fact that they had in that neighbourhood in all probability, perhaps in a greater degree of probability than in any other place, the scene of the victory obtained by the Romans over Caractacus, the ancient British chieftain, one of the most important features of long gone-by times. He had no doubt that in the excursions of the Society during the week they would see a great many specimens of genuine Welsh antiquities of different kinds; it was for that purpose he had come there. He hoped to visit places he had never been to before, in order to find out—not to find out, but to be led to—places which were memorable for their historical and antiquarian associations. He just wished to say one word in reference to their excellent museum of antiquities. (Cheers.) He saw under one of the tables in the museum sculptured effigies which should either be removed to the church whence they came or to some neighbouring church; as they were beautifully executed and ought to be preserved. He heartily begged to second the vote of thanks to their worthy President. (Cheers.)

The Mayor of Welshpool (Mr. PARKER) said he had great pleasure that evening in giving a hearty welcome to the Cambrian Archæological Association. He trusted that meeting would be much more successful than the one in 1856.

The motion having been carried, the CHAIRMAN said he had only to thank them very cordially for the kind acknowledgment of his poor services which they had been pleased to make, and to express his wish that they were more worthy of the recognition. He would now call upon their Secretary, Mr. R. Trevor Owen, to read the report.

The Rev. R. TREVOR OWEN, then read the following report:—

Three and twenty years have passed since your Association held its meeting in this town under the presidency of the Right Honourable the Earl of Powis, and on that occasion the state of the weather was such that several places on the programme could not be visited, and so it happens that, though this is the second time for the Cambrian Archæological Association to visit Welshpool, the neighbourhood may almost be said to be fresh ground.

You will find that a vigorous offshoot of your Society, the Powysland Club, has sprung up here, and has been doing much in the way of illustrating the history of Montgomeryshire and that there exists a local museum of great interest, due mainly to the exertions of Mr Morris C. Jones, secretary of the Powysland Club.

The thanks of your Society are due to R. W. Banks, Esq., for his present of the plates which illustrate his papers on Llanddwy Church, and a wooden female head found at Llanio. Your committee must congratulate the members on the completion of Prof. Westwood's learned and valuable work on "The inscribed stones of Wales," the concluding part of it is now ready to be sent out to subscribers. They are also glad to say that Mr. Charles Baker, F.S.A., has kindly undertaken to edit a new volume of original documents, which will commence with those relating to the possessions of Neath Abbey; and that the Rev. E. L. Barnwell and Mr. Breese intend bringing out at their joint risk the "Cwta Cyfarwydd," or the Chronicle of Peter Roberts, a book which ought to interest the members who reside in North Wales, as it embraces the register of births, marriages, burials, and the principal local events in Flintshire and Denbighshire from 1607 to 1646.

Since the issue of the last report, Mr. Askew Roberts's new edition of the History of the Gwydir Family has been published. In the preparation of this edition much assistance was received from W. W. I. Wynne, of Peniarth, Esq., one of your Vice-Presidents, who had collated his copy of Miss Llwyd's edition with the Brogyntyn, Wynnstay, and Peniarth MSS. Another member of your Society, Mr. Alewyn C. Evans, has edited and annotated some Royal Charters and Historical Documents relating to the town and county of Carmarthen, and the Abbeys of Talley and Tygwyn-ar-Daf.

The number of members continues to be satisfactory, but it is necessary once more for the Editor, while thanking those who have so kindly sent him papers for the Journal, to appeal to the members generally for more active co-operation in supplying him with notices of any local antiquities, and of anything worthy of record in the country churches of Wales, which very often have an interest peculiarly their own.

The Committee have with regret to announce the resignation of the Rev. D. R. Thomas, who has held the office of Editor and General Secretary since the year 1875, and propose that the thanks of the Association be given him for his valuable services, and that he be elected one of the local secretaries for Montgomeryshire.

Within the last twelve months the Association has lost two very old members by the deaths of the Very Rev. Llewelyn Llewellyn, D.C.L., Dean of St. David's, First Principal of St. David's College, Lampeter, and the Rev. T. James, M.A., LL.D., Vicar of Netherthong, whose name appears in the first printed list of members.

Your Committee recommend that the names of the Right Hon. Lord Windsor and Lord Dynevor be placed on the list of patrons, and that the Very Rev. The Dean of Llandaff be elected one of the vice-presidents.

Since the last meeting the following noblemen and gentlemen have joined the association, and their election awaits confirmation by the members:—

North Wales.—D. H. Mytton, Esq., Garth, Welshpool, J. Dugdale, Esq., Llwyn, Llanfyllin, W. A. Pughe, Esq., The Hall, Llanfyllin, The Rev. E. Tudor Owen, Brighton-road, Rhyl, The Rev. Canon Howell Evans, Oswestry, The Rev. John Thomas, Llangurig.

South Wales.—The Right Hon. Lord Windsor, St. Fagan's Castle, Cardiff, The Right Hon. Lord Dynevor, Dynevor Castle, Llandilo, The Very Rev. The Dean of Llandaff, the Deanery, Llandaff, T. H. R. Hughes, Esq., Neuaddfawr, Lampeter, The Rev. — Bowen, Hamilton House, Penabroke, Herbert Jones, Esq., Llammas-street, Carmarthen, Henry W. Lewis, Esq., Treherbert, Pontypridd, H. Dyke Pearce, Esq., Tanybryn, Cefn, Merthyr.

England.—J. P. Hamer, Esq., Glanrafon, Oswestry, The Rev. J. Davies, M.C.F.A.S., Hampstead, London.

The Rev. D. L. BARNWELL, in moving the adoption of the report, said that it was in every way a favourable one, except perhaps that there was a want of literary contributions, and he might add of readiness to pay up subscriptions. (Laughter.) In all other respects the Association was in a most flourishing condition. In fact, as far as numbers were concerned, they increased every year. He begged to propose that the report be approved of and adopted.

The Rev. Prebendary DAVIES said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion proposed by their excellent treasurer. With regard to one sentence in the report, he wished to bear his testimony to the excellence, according

to his judgment, of Mr. Askew Roberts's edition of the Gwydir Family, which was one of the most interesting books he had read for a very long time. It was of great value from an archaeological point of view, because it threw much light upon questions of antiquarian interest in North Wales. He would recommend it to those who had not read it as an excellent book. He begged to second the adoption of the report.

WATTLESBOROUGH CASTLE.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS said that he had received a paper upon the subject of Wattlesborough Castle, from Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., member for North Shropshire. That castle they proposed to visit on the following day. Mr. Stanley Leighton had taken great pains in preparing it, and had sent along with it illustrations which would make it of very great value when it appeared in the journal. It would also be of special interest as a preparation for the examination of some of the objects they intended to visit on the next day's excursion.

Mr. THOMAS then read Mr. Stanley Leighton's paper.

WATTLESBOROUGH.

Wattlesborough is in the Marches of Wales, in the shire of Salop, in the hundred of Ford, in the parish of Cardeston. It is ten miles from Shrewsbury and eight from Welshpool; the old road between those towns passed under the walls of the Castle.

Standing with one's face towards the south, the Breidden Hills lie on the right hand about 3 miles distant; in front the low back of the Long Mountain limits the horizon, and on a spur of its western slope the wooded elevation of Caus Castle is distinctly visible. The Stiperstones form a fine background behind it. Turning still more towards the left are Rowton and the opening plain of Shropshire. At the back rises Loton Park, formerly called the Reawood.

To realise the position of Wattlesborough as a place of defence in old days we must imagine the whole cultivated ground between it and the Long Mountain, through which now runs the main road to Welshpool, as an uninclosed and undrained morass difficult to pass in wet weather. This tract of land known as Wattlesborough Heath stretched from Bragginton, through Wollaston to Westbury, and on by Stretton Heath to Amaston and Rowton. It was not inclosed till the year 1780, and many are the records of disputes and litigation, from the reign of Elizabeth to the reign of George III., between the successive lords of this manor and the lords of the neighbouring manor of Westbury as to their respective boundaries, rights, and royalties. A portion of the waste at length became "no man's land," and squatters upon it gained a possessory title to the freehold.

Behind the Castle the higher ground must have been heavily wooded, and towards the Breidden intersected with frequent dingles. Situated midway between Alberbury Castle and Caus Castle, Wattlesborough was thus well fitted to form a link in the chain of border fortresses which in this neighbourhood commanded the Marches of Wales.

The general appearance, however, is a little disappointing: for it is wanting in some of those features of picturesqueness which lend a charm to manor-houses of far less ancient date.

The principal building consists of a simple square tower about fifty feet high, with flat Norman buttresses. The battlements and corner turret which probably once surmounted the walls have been removed, and a modern roof has taken their place.

The existence, however, of the weather mouldings on each face of the opposite internal walls immediately below

the present roof and the set-back of the wall at the springing of these gable-mouldings in the other walls, may indicate that the original termination was a gable one.

The massiveness of the stonework of the tower, and the clean-cut masonry of the circular stone staircase, are worthy of notice.

The walls are six feet thick; the angles are finished with broad, flat buttresses, six feet wide and ten inches deep.

Including the basement, the tower is divided into three stories. On the south side only the original windows remain; they are narrow, square loops. On that side, also, may be observed an example of the roughness of the early conditions of English life, in the existence of a drain issuing through an aperture in the thick walls, from one of the principal rooms.

On the three other sides windows in the later Gothic style have been inserted.

On the western side may be seen the remains of a "garde-robe," another indication of an inconvenient simplicity of manners and closeness of quarters.

On the northern side a wing, ancient indeed, but added a century or more after the date of the original tower, is still standing, the small buttress at the end of which appears to be of the 14th century. The wing itself is dilapidated, and shows signs of frequent old alterations.

In the north-east corner of the main building the circular staircase winds up within the buttress, commencing with the first floor and continued to the roof, but having no communication with the basement; nor does there appear ever to have been any.

There is, however, on the first floor a good sized circular headed, double chamfered door, enclosing a square-headed lintel opening internally on which it appears to have been secured by a strong bar, the holes for fixing which remain.

The inference is that this formed the real and only entrance to the tower, and was approached by an external staircase, all traces of which are lost in the present farmhouse constructed out of the old materials, which abuts on the tower on the eastern side. In the parlour of the farm-house may be seen some panelling of Elizabethan character.

In each of the upper floors is a fire-place. They are square-headed and plain, the lower one only having a shallow moulding around it. These are probably of the 15th century.

There is no stone vaulting, a peculiar circumstance in a tower of this age and style.

In the basement is a small pointed doorway of the earliest style and most simple form.

The moat, easily traceable on the south and south-east, is filled up on the other sides.

Beyond the moat are the vestiges of an Elizabethan Garden, which was probably itself surrounded by a ditch.

The scale of Wattlesborough is not large, but it is doubtless a fair example of the size of a feudal residence of a family of knightly degree.

Passing from topography and architecture to personal associations and records, we note, taking our start from the pages of Eyton's antiquities of Shropshire, that in Domesday Book, Wattlesborough, formed part of the fief of the Norman Roger Fitz Corbet of Caus.

In 1180, however, it appears as a separate estate held by Richard Corbet as a knight's fee, under the Barony of Caus, and to this date we should assign the building of the tower.

The grant of the right to hold a fair on the 24th, 25th, and 26th July was made to a Corbet in 1272, and the fair was annually held at a place still called "the Old Heath fair place" till the year 1857.

A grant of free warren was made in 1288.

The knightly family of Corbet, of whom one was sheriff in 1288, and knight of the shire at the very commence-

ment of our Parliamentary era in 1290, and another knight of the shire in 1372, resided at Wattlesborough for two centuries.

On the death of Fulk Corbet in 1382, the estate of Moreton Corbet passed to his brother Roger, where the family still reside, but the estate of Wattlesborough passed to his daughter and heir, Elizabeth, who married John de la Pole, Lord of Dinas Mawddwy. The daughter of this marriage, another Elizabeth, carried the estate in 1410 into the family of De Burgh: having married Hugh de Burgh, who was Knight of the Shire in 1415, and Sheriff in 1430. His son was John de Burgh, who was Knight of the Shire in 1452, left at his death in 1472, four daughters and coheirs—

1. Ankaret, who married John Leighton of Stretton-in-le-Dale, of the family of Leighton of Leighton, near Buildwas, ancestor of the Leightons, Baronets of Wattlesborough. He was Knight of the Shire in 1472 and 1477, and thrice Sheriff of Shropshire.

2. Elizabeth, who married William Newport, ancestor, in the female line, of the Bridgemans, Earls of Bradford.

3. Isabella, who married Sir John Lingen, ancestor of the Burtons of Longnor.

4. Elizabeth, who married Thomas Mytton, ancestor of the Myttons, late of Halston.

In the reign of Elizabeth, the Welsh herald Griffith Hiraethog visited this place about the year 1565, and the notes which he made of the coats of arms (preserved in the Hengwrt Library) are now (1879) in the possession of Mr. Wynne of Peniarth.

The number of Heraldic devices in various rooms which he mentions indicate a residence of greater consequence than the existing remains would lead one to expect.

Sir Edward Leighton, the then representative of the family, was twice sheriff of Shropshire, and twice of Montgomeryshire; he was Knight of the Shire, member of the Court of the Marches, and Custos Rotulorum of the County. He entertained here for a fortnight in 1584 his distant kinsman, the Earl of Essex, the favourite of Queen Elizabeth.

Blakeway, in his history of Shrewsbury, Vol. 2, p. 380, thus notices the visit.

"Book of orders of the Corporation, March 24, 1584. Agreed that the Bailiffs shall bestow on the Earl of Essex, intending to pass through this town as to-morrow, in wine cakes, etc., to the value of 20 shillings. This great peer, so soon to become the favourite of his mistress, the 'admiration and regret of Europe,' was now in his 18th year, and on his road to Wattlesborough Castle, whence he returned on the 15th of May. Mr. Leighton was 2nd cousin to the Earl's grandfather, a degree of consanguinity esteemed very near in that age of pedigree. Soon after this young nobleman embarked for Holland as general of cavalry under the Earl of Leicester, and there can be little doubt that his visit to Shropshire was undertaken with a view of raising forces for that command, Mr. Leighton being a person of great weight in the county at that time. His death is thus recorded in our Chronicle 1593 Sept. 10th. The worthy knight Sir Edward Leighton, and being one of the counsell of the marches of Wales departed this present life, being great countenance and fame all Shropshire over, whose burial was not solemnised until a month after, whose death was sore missed and lamented of many."

Passing on to the period of the civil war, the owner of Wattlesborough was fortunately for himself and his estates a minor and took no part in the struggle, though his cousins Harcourt Leighton, of Plash, and Leighton Owen, of Bragginton were staunch Parliamentarians. At the restoration Robert Leighton was returned member for

Shrewsbury, and sat in the longest Parliament on record namely from 1661 to 1678. This Parliament was called the "Pensionary" Parliament.

His son, Sir Edward, the first baronet, was the last of his family who lived at Wattleborough. He was sheriff in 1693; contested the representation of the county in the Williamite as opposed to the Jacobite interest in 1695, when the numbers at the close of the poll were—

Richard Ld. Newport	...	...	281
(Williamite)			
Edward Kynaston	...	...	157
(Jacobite)			
Sir Edw. Leighton	...	...	147
(Williamite)			

He was returned unopposed with Edw. Kynaston in 1698; and afterwards sat for Shrewsbury. He died in 1711, having married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Job Charlton, Bt., of Ludford, M.P. for Ludlow, and Speaker of the House of Commons in 1674, and afterwards a Judge.

After his time the castle has been inhabited as a farmhouse.

We conclude, as we began, with an extract from Eyton, vol. viii., p. 107:—

"After evolving the intricacies of remote genealogy, or endeavouring to mark the changes of border-topography, the mind rests with satisfaction on any tangible monument which symbolises certain broad features of the forgotten æra, though it fails to solve a doubt or fix a single event. As regards scale, and when compared with Caus, Wattleborough must be placed in the second class of feudal residences. In respect, however, of hereditary associations, the stronghold of the vassal surpasses the castle of the Baron, for Wattleborough is one of those few Shropshire estates which have never been bartered for gold since they were first occupied by the Normans."

The Rev. TREVOR OWEN having announced some alterations in the programme for the week, the meeting then separated.

TUESDAY'S EXCURSION.

The following were the arrangements made for Tuesday, which was a carriage day:—At nine a.m.,—Start from the Town Hall to Buttington, site of battle with the Danes, A.D. 894.—Church and font.—The party will then divide, Sec. 1 proceeding to The "Old Mills" Ford over the Severn, the "Moat" and the Dyke; thence along the probable route of the Romans, to the "Ancient Fortress on the Breidden," to British Camp on Cefn-y-Castell, and by earthwork on Bausley Hill to meet Sect. 2, at Crewe Green, at 3 p.m. Sect. 2. Tumuli at Woolaston. Remains at Wattleborough. Alberbury Church and Priory. Crewe Green at 3 p.m. Belan Bank. Llandrinio Church. Site of Ystrad Marchell Abbey. (Strata Marcella.) For some reason or other none of the members of the Association entered their names for "Section 1," and the proposed division into sections was therefore abandoned. On Monday night a decided change for the worse took place in the weather, and so much rain fell during the night and early on Tuesday morning, that it seemed not unlikely that the excursion would have to be abandoned altogether. Happily the rain clouds disappeared, and Tuesday turned out a day of brilliant sunshine tempered by a pleasant breeze. The archæologists, upwards of 30 in number, started from the Town Hall in carriages soon after nine o'clock on Tuesday morning, under the pleasant and able guidance of the Rev. D. R. Thomas for Buttington Church. On reaching this homely little village church, Mr. Thomas said that the chief interest in Buttington lay in its being the spot where in former times (about the year 894) a battle was

fought between the Danes under Hesten and the English under one of Alfred's generals, assisted by the Welsh under Mervyn, Prince of Powis and Anarawd, Prince of North Wales. The Danes came up the course of the Severn, as they were starved out, the English on the one side and the Welsh on the other combining against them. It was said that they were driven to such a pass by hunger that they were obliged to eat their own horses. Some years ago a former vicar was preparing to build a school at the west end of the churchyard, and when the workmen were digging the foundations they came upon some pits, in which were an immense number of human skeletons. He believed there were three pits, and one of them three feet deep by three feet in diameter, contained no fewer than 200 skulls. The two other pits contained human skulls and bones. They were re-buried on the north side of the Church. Some bones of horses were also found, which went to confirm the statement of the Saxon Chronicle that the Danes were driven by hunger to eat their horses. Mr. Thomas afterwards pointed out the curious font in the Church, which consists of the head of a pillar scooped out for the purpose, and probably brought from the ruins of the neighbouring Abbey of Strata Marcella. Mr. Bloxam said that it was of thirteenth century date. Attention was called to some fifteenth century stained glass, which had been placed "anyhow" in the west window. Two or three of the party afterwards went to look at what Mr. Bloxam pronounced the remains of a Roman Camp near the Church. The drive was then resumed, and a very enjoyable drive it was. The atmosphere was very clear, and the Llanymynech rocks, the Breidden range, and prominently the Moel-y-Golfa stood out in picturesque beauty. Now and then the sweet smell of new mown hay (not even yet all gathered in) was wafted by the breeze. The party, in pursuing their journey along the Shrewsbury-road, passed the cottage in which Old Parr was born, and afterwards alighted to examine a mound close to Woolaston Church, the character of which gave rise to a rather animated discussion. It was suggested that it might have been the site of a moated grange. Mr. M. C. Jones doubted whether it was a tumulus. On the other hand Mr. Bloxam said that it was a fine tumulus, and he had no doubt that it was a point of communication with the great fortress of Cefn-y-Castell on the Breidden. Mr. J. A. Picton, of Liverpool, was inclined to think that it was a sepulchral mound. Mr. Bloxam said they seldom found a sepulchral mound having a moat round it. He had not the slightest doubt that it was used as a beacon by the Romans. The key of Woolaston Church having been obtained the visitors went to look at the brass mural tablet in the wall of the church, bearing the following inscription:—

The old, old, very old man, Thomas Parr, was born at the Glyn, in the parish of Winnington, within the chapelry of Wolaston, in the parish of Alberbury, in the county of Salop, in the year of our Lord 1483; he lived in the reigns of ten kings and queens of England—viz.: Edward the 4th and 5th, Henry 7th and 8th, Edward the 6th, Mary, Elizabeth, James the 1st, and Charles the 1st; died the 13th, and was buried in Westminster Abbey the 15th November, 1635, aged 152 years and nine months.

After leaving Woolaston church, a halt of a few moments was made at the "Half-way House," for a slight refreshment, and then Wattleborough Castle was visited. The castle is eight miles from Welshpool, and the old road between Welshpool and Shrewsbury passed under its walls. It stands midway between Alberbury Castle and Caus Castle, and was remarked by Mr. Stanley Leighton to be "well fitted to form a link in the chain of border fortresses, which in this neighbourhood commanded the Marches of Wales." It is now a farm house. The occu-

pier (Mr. Bebb) allowed the visitors to inspect every part of it. The tower, which is square and the stone work of which is very massive, is about fifty feet high. The Rev. D. R. Thomas pointed out the moat on the south and south-west sides of the castle (on the other sides it is filled up) and the remains of an Elizabethan garden. On visiting the tower a discussion took place as to the date to be assigned to it.

Mr. PROTON thought it was evidently a Norman castle, and pointed out what he considered traces of Norman work in the circular headed windows, the mouldings, and circular arches. He thought the probable date was 1160. There were Peel towers which were precisely of the same character.

Mr. ROBINSON said there might possibly be documentary evidence of the existence of a Norman Castle there, but the characteristic features of the present tower did not appear to him to be Norman.

Mr. HARTSHORNE suggested that it might be late Norman work.

Mr. BLOXAM assigned the original structure to the middle of the twelfth century, but said it had undergone alterations in the fourteenth and two succeeding centuries.

The remains of a "garde robe" were pointed out on the western side of the tower. The fire places in the upper floors Mr. BLOXAM agreed with Mr. Stanley Leighton in assigning to the fifteenth century. The tower roof is comparatively modern.

The next place visited was the pleasant village of Alberbury, with its fine church and the picturesque ruins of the Castle. Here, skirting the road, is Loton Park, the seat of Sir Baldwin Leighton. The arrival of the archaeologists seemed to afford considerable amusement to a number of school children who assembled in the road. On reaching the churchyard, the visitors were courteously received by the Rev. J. MITCHELL, vicar of the parish, who said he was sorry he had not been able to prepare a paper, in consequence of the absence of authentic information. The church, which looks unusually large for a village church, is of Norman origin, but has been a good deal spoilt by so-called restoration. The Vicar said that there was a record of the church dated 1020. The original church was supposed to have been of the dimensions of the present chancel. Two hundred years later, in 1220, during the reign of King John, Fitzwarin built the Castle and Priory, and his monks took possession of his Norman church which they used as a choir and chancel. The tower was erected at the same date. This tower, which was built of the old red sandstone, is a very interesting one. It is gabled and saddle-backed. As it has loopholes and no external entrance, it is supposed that it was used as a fortress. In some places, and especially upon border lands, church towers have thus been made to serve a double purpose. The portion of the church built by the monks was consecrated by Bishop Swinfield in 1289. The aisle was built in 1340 by one of the Corbets of that day. There is some florid tracery, and a bit of glass of the fourteenth century in the south chapel. At the end of the chancel aisle is a beautiful window, which has been blocked up. Inside the church, at the north side of the chancel, is a buttress, which was evidently an external buttress of the old Norman church, and there is also the door which led to the cloisters. Mr. Mitchell said that when the priests became vicars, and grew, he supposed, more worldly-minded, they built the old vicarage, which he (the vicar) pulled down, and built a new one. The bells were re-cast in the last century. The last record of the navigation of the Severn up to White Abbey was when the bells were brought there. It was curious that Eyton, in his "Antiquities,"

gave it as an instance of the carelessness of Roman Catholics in the matter of consecration that that church existed so long before it was consecrated by Bishop Swinfield in 1289; whereas the fact was, that what was consecrated in that year was the new nave thrown out by the monks. The size of the nave was seventy-nine feet by twenty-eight. The chancel was fifty-one feet long. There were no pews in the church till 1660. The chancel was rebuilt in 1847 on the old foundations.

Attention was called to some flying buttresses on the south west side of the church, and to two stones, bearing ornament of a very early period (supposed by some to be Saxon), on the north east buttress of the tower. Whilst the chapel on the north side, which belongs to the Leighton family, was being examined, the VICAR said that in some old papers there was an allusion to St. Peter's Chapel in the church of Chirbury, and that might have been the chapel. A beautiful triangular window of the Decorated period at the west end was said to be unique.

Mr. PROTON, of Liverpool, called attention to some carved work in the roof. It appeared to him that the struts, which were elaborately carved, were placed there to resist the pressure of the roof.

Mr. BLOXAM said that in a church in Northamptonshire there were very finely ornamented stone struts.

The VICAR said that in the last century the corbels of the nave roof were cut away in order to make room for a ceiling. The windows at the east end were said to be reproductions of the original Norman windows. When they were putting in hot water pipes they discovered some encaustic tiles of the original floor of the church, but, unfortunately too late to make use of it. In the churchyard is the tomb of Canon Cureton, the distinguished scholar. In this church Old Parr, who was a native of the parish, had to do penance at the age of 105, "in consequence of an intrigue with Catherine Milton." The ivy-mantled ruins of the Castle were next visited. The Vicar read a short account of it which had been written by himself. He said there was a record of this border castle having been built by Fitzwarin in 1220. Alberbury was once an estate of the Crown, and gave its name to a hundred. It was mentioned in Domesday Book, and in the reign of Stephen, between 1135 and 1154, the lord of that day was recorded to have given the patronage of the Church to Shrewsbury Abbey. Fulke Fitzwarin, who held the manor, together with that of Caus and other manors in Shropshire as elsewhere, died in 1178. His descendants, like himself, were men of repute. In 1238, a lord of the same name was summoned to Oxford as one of the great chiefs to consult Henry III. as to what steps should be taken against the powerful Welsh Prince Llewelyn. In 1234 Edward IV. granted a licence to Fitzwarin to hold a weekly market on Fridays, and two annual fairs of three days each in June and September. It was to this family that the castle belonged. What now formed a garden was probably an enclosure, into which the people could drive their cattle when any alarm was given that the Welsh were coming down from their hills. It was remarked during the inspection of the ruins that they appeared in part to belong to the period of the transition between Norman and Early English. At the Vicarage Mr. Mitchell showed the archaeologists a curious sacramental plate chest with large bolts, which may be shot into their places by a turn of the key. He also pointed out a doorway which belonged to the old vicarage.

The visitors next proceeded to the Priory or "White Abbey," as it was called, which is about a mile from the church. It is now inhabited. The building is in excellent

preservation, and the stone roofs, groined with ribs and carved bosses, of two of the chambers are particularly interesting. On one of the bosses is the *Agnus Dei*.—Mr. BLOXAM said it was 13th century work.—The building formed the chapel of the Priory. The cornice of a piscina is preserved. The east window is blocked up. Mr. Bloxam pointed out the probable site of the chapter house, refectory, dormitories, and other parts of the conventual buildings.

The VICAR stated that the Priory belonged to the White Benedictines of the Order of Grandmont, in the diocese of Limousin. In 1441 the monastery was suppressed by Henry VI., who made it over to All Souls College, Oxford.

After thanking the Vicar for his courteous attention, the archæologists got into their carriages, and proceeded towards Llandrinio. On their way they found that a bridge had been swept away by the floods, and a temporary wooden bridge had been put up, which it was necessary to cross on foot. Belan Bank was passed without being examined. On reaching Llandrinio, they were welcomed by the rector, the Rev. E. B. Smith. The church is very simple in character, but is not devoid of interest. Although it, too, has been a victim to a sweeping "restoration," it contains some unmistakable features of the original Norman structure.

The RECTOR said he was very sorry that he had not been able to make any original discoveries as to the early history of that church. All he knew about it was derived from the very excellent History of the Diocese, published by his friend and neighbour, the Vicar of Meifod. He would, if they would allow him, read the account of the Church, given in Mr. Thomas's book. From this it appears that in the time of the Commonwealth, Rector Griffith having been deprived of the living by the Parliamentary sequestrators, on the restoration of Charles II., being promoted to the see of St. Asaph, took the living in commendam, and in this he was followed by his successors until the death of Bishop Carey in 1846. The following is Mr. Thomas's description of the Church:—

The Church which bears its founder's name, though small, is very interesting. The ground plan consists of a simple oblong body, distinguished externally into chancel and nave, with a small tower at the west end, and a south porch. From a Norman arch and an ogee piscina visible externally in the north wall, it would appear to have been at one time a double church, and of course much larger than at present. The south door, the fine old Norman font, and a narrow loop window on the north side belong to the same period. The east window, a small three light, decorated, is a later insertion, as is evidenced by the walling. The carved pulpit and the old communion table, now in the vestry, are of Elizabethan date. A yet more recent gallery occupies the west end, and the Church has been twice repaired within the present century, viz., in 1829 and in 1860. On this last occasion it was repewed with open seats, the pulpit removed to the east end, and a new desk set up on the north side. In the examination of the church the font was pronounced to be a very good specimen of an early Norman font. Attention was called to the arch in the wall on the north-west side of the church, as showing that there was formerly an aisle on that side, and to the remains of a piscina at the east end of the north wall, as pointing to the existence of a chapel there.

Mr. PRICON said that whether the piscina was in situ or not, it was evidently not a Norman one, but of a much later date.

Mr. THOMAS said there was a curious arcade built in the wall, showing that there was a double aisle both north and south, and there must have been subsequently a chapel or chantry on the north side.

The RECTOR said he was told that in making graves near

the church on the north side a great quantity of old stones had been found.

Mr. THOMAS remarked that it would be well to keep a sharp look out, as it might be possible to trace the foundations of the chapel and aisle.

The RECTOR said that the custom of decorating the graves with flowers, especially on Easter eve, still prevailed in that parish. Mr. Smith then invited the visitors to the Rectory, where he showed them the communion plate, which Mr. BLOXAM said was of the 17th century. A silver flagon bears an inscription showing that it was given by Bishop Barrow to the parish in 1680. The visitors were then entertained to tea, which was very acceptable to them after the rather hard day's work.

Having thanked the Rector for his timely hospitality, they resumed their journey. There was no time to examine (as had been intended) the site of the celebrated Abbey of Ystrad Marchell (*Strata Marcella*) which is about two miles and a half east of Welshpool. The party reached the Royal Oak, Welshpool, about half-past six o'clock, after a pleasant day's outing of nearly ten hours, during which they travelled about twenty-six miles in a complete circuit round the Breidden.

THE EVENING MEETING.

The evening meeting was held at half-past eight, under the presidency of Professor Babington, and was well attended.

The CHAIRMAN said that he would give some account of the proceedings of the day for the benefit of those who were not present at the excursion. It was not necessary that he should give a full account of what had taken place, but it was important to give an outline now that they were all assembled together. When they started there was every appearance of a wet day, but they had been most agreeably disappointed, for the weather had been delightful, and so they had no ground of complaint on that score. They had come home, and although the time had been long they had not been too much tired. They went to Buttington Church first, and examined the exterior and interior to see what could be found out. The chief thing was the church font, which had, there was no doubt, been the capital of a column; and the portion he referred to had been utilized for a font, and being the top it was easily adapted to its present purpose. In the west window there was some glass, and he thought it might have been arranged very differently, and better than it had been, but he might be wrong and was open to correction. He was also attracted by the yew tree, which was a very fine specimen, but he had seen a larger recently on his visit to Derbyshire. They were informed that a large number of human skulls—upwards of 200—had been found in a pit in the churchyard, which evidently pointed to the great battle which took place near that spot between the Danes and the English and Welsh. It so happened that the Danes were defeated by the combined attack of the English and Welsh. This number of skulls could hardly have been found in one pit unless a great battle had taken place. On the porch there was an inscription, and T.G. appears with two lines after it, and then H.W., 1686, and it would appear to have been for the initials of the persons in trust or charge of the church at that time. They then passed on to the tumulus at Great Woolaston, and some doubt existed amongst those who inspected it as to its object, but it was a well-known fact that such tumuli were used for military purposes. The chief, no doubt, threw it up, and put a stockade of timber around it. The tump at Woolaston it would be difficult to fix the date of. They then went inside the church to see the mural brass commemorating the death of Old Parr, who was said to have lived 152 years—(the age on the brass is given at 152 years

9 months). They must take it for what it was worth. The remains of Wattlesborough Castle was the next place visited. The building was originally Norman, and some portions of it dated later on, and belonged to the Decorated period. The castle was what they should call a Peel House. It had been the residence of a great man, and was the place where they could drive cattle for temporary rescue in troublesome times, as the Border counties were never safe from invasion, and they did not know in that age what a moment might bring forth. The upper rooms appeared very much smaller, as they contracted very suddenly, but it was possible there had been a third floor. Alberbury Church, Castle, and Priory were the next places visited, and the style of the buildings seemed Norman, but the church had gone through a great many changes. The church had been rebuilt, the south aisle being built in the 14th century, after the other part, by the monks for their own purposes. It was curiously marked by beams detached from the roof. It would seem that it was giving way at one time, and was strengthened in this manner. Llan-drinio Church was the next place visited, and there were traces of a north aisle, and of the church being larger than at present. To ascertain correctly about the former existence of a north aisle, would require extensive excavations to be made. With regard to Ystrad Marchell Abbey, after a careful examination they had come to the conclusion that a portion of the house consisted of the church or chapel of the original priory.

A short discussion followed with regard to the date of Wattlesborough Castle; it was generally fixed as of the 12th century. The Rev. D. R. THOMAS said Mr. Stanley Leighton in his paper stated that in 1179 it was held by a Corbet. Mr. ROBINSON was inclined to think that it was of later date. He also commented on the fact that the old glass in the window of the church at Buttington had been so placed that the arms of one figure were in one part of the window, the body in another, and the legs in another. It was a shame that one of the very few specimens of good 15th century glass that they had left should be so treated. With regard to Alberbury Church he expressed an opinion that it had been completely spoilt by the "restoration." Mr. BLOXAM made some remarks on the tumulus at Woolaston, which he believed to have been an old Roman outpost, or what we should call a telegraph post in these days. He referred to his work on "Ancient British Works in Warwickshire" for further information on this point. He agreed with Professor Babington that the font in the church at Buttington was originally the capital of a column. The Rev. E. L. BARNWELL had very serious doubts about the origin of the tumulus. It might be a sepulchral mound, or a beacon, or the remains of a castle. He had seen a great number of them. The Rev. D. R. THOMAS, in confirmation of Mr. Bloxam's theory, said there was a Roman road in the vicinity, but its course had not been correctly traced, and whether it led to Mediolanum had not been ascertained.

The discussion on the day's proceedings having been brought to a close,

The Rev. Prebendary DAVIES, read a paper on "The Breidden Hills and their connexion with Caractacus," which he had written for the Powys Land Club, and which has appeared in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*:—Tacitus, the sole authority for the details of this campaign (said Mr. Davies) was never in Britain, and as he derived his information probably from his father-in-law, Agricola, whose campaign against the Ordovices is dated 78 A.D.—i.e., more than a quarter of a century later than that of Ostorius Scapula against the Silures—the descriptions of positions and localities were most likely general, such, in

fact, as rather betrayed defects of verisimilitude than furnished notes of correspondence after the lapse of centuries. The Breidden was a tremendous vantageground, fit to have witnessed a triumph of Roman warfare; fit also to have been chosen for the supreme struggle of the most valiant of the British chieftains. It was of ample dimensions, of remarkable natural and highly-creditable artificial strength, and altogether an appropriate scene for the throes of a barbarian empire when

Venit summa dies, et inexorabile tempus.

After some remarks by the Rev. D. R. Thomas and Mr. Bloxam, the CHAIRMAN said they had much to thank those gentlemen for who had addressed them, but to continue the meeting further, at that advanced hour of the night, would interfere with the rest necessary for the morrow's excursion to Oswestry, and the proceedings would therefore be at once brought to a close.

WEDNESDAY.

On Wednesday, the day fixed for visiting Oswestry, the rain came down in the most uncompromising fashion, and there seemed no hope of improvement. A larger number of archaeologists, however, than could have been expected in these untoward circumstances started from Welshpool by the market train leaving there at 10-5 and reaching Oswestry at 11-15. They were accompanied by the Vicar of Oswestry (the Rev. Canon Howell Evans) to the parish church of St. Oswald. This spacious church, with its fine old tower, dear to every Oswestrian, was, as most of our readers know, restored by Mr. Street in 1874, at a cost of £10,000, and although it was of course made far more convenient for, and adapted to, the purposes of public worship, its interest to the archaeologist was far from being enhanced. After the visitors had entered the church the VICAR expressed the great pleasure it gave him to meet them there, and to know that there were many able men present who could give them the interpretation of the writing on the walls.

The following paper was read by the VICAR from the lectern:—There can be but little surprise that so few architectural remains of an early date should be found in Oswestry when we remember how for centuries the almost ceaseless ebb and flow of war and strife swept over the whole of the district. Of the earliest church that existed here, there is no certain record or knowledge. That Christianity was firmly planted amongst our British ancestors so early as the second century we know, and as we follow with eager interest the history of the Celtic Church in later days, which, from that Candida Casa built by S. Ninian on the Solway Firth, spread far and wide, until in the fourth century it was firmly established, both in Scotland and England, we cannot but believe that in this district, too, important as it was from the earliest period, there must have existed a church with its band of clergy. Again, no doubt the monastic system prevailed here in the fifth century, as it did throughout Wales; for how thoroughly it was developed amongst the British, who at that time occupied this broad land of Meisir, we learn not only from the celebrated monastery of Bangor-is-coed, only a short distance from Oswestry, but also from the well-known facts that the founder of the great monastery of Clonard, in Meath, and the regenerator of Ireland, S. Finnian, was trained amongst the British, and went forth, accompanied by many of them, as well as by his twelve apostles, as they were called, to that great work of his which, in the end, sent out missionaries not only to the northern parts of these islands but to the continent as well. It was in the School of Finnian that Columba was trained, whose monastery

in Iona became the source of new light in Scotland and amidst the Angles of Northumbria; one of them, Kentigern, Bishop of Glasgow, also bearing, we are told, the Gospel through the whole of Cumbria, and amidst the unconverted parts of Wales. Some, perhaps, of his missionaries, preached here on this very spot, or on what may have been the earliest site of the Church at Llanforda, more hidden amongst the woods, and safer than the plain. But we approach firmer ground as to the connection of Oswestry Church with that old Celtic Church, which was independent then as we are now of Rome, differing from it in many of its customs and traditions, as for instance the time of keeping Easter, and professing "nought but the doctrines of the Evangelists and Apostles." For that, Oswald, to whom our Church is dedicated, after the defeat and death of his father, Ethelfrid (destroyer of the monks of Bangor) found safety in the monastery of Iona, and was there trained up in the Christian faith and baptised; so that when he had gained his kingdom, and desired to instruct his people in Christianity, it was from Iona that he sought teachers, of whom Aidan was bishop, Lindisfarne being their monastery; and when in that fatal year of 642 he set his forces in battle array against heathen Penda, somewhere near Maesyllan, and erected the cross to invoke God's blessing, it requires no great effort to picture the Celtic priests, clad in their white tunics and cloaks, with hoods of undyed wool, chanting their solemn prayers for victory and success. When, many years after, the remains of the defeated king were taken down from the trees, where Penda had fixed them, and buried by his brother Oswy, and Christian monks returned to erect a new church in place of that destroyed by the heathen, it was doubtless as near as possible to the spot where the Cross of Oswald had been fixed that they reared the new buildings to the glory of God, connecting them for ever with the memory of him whom they regarded as a martyr king. About 777 the tide of war must have again rolled over this district, when it was taken from the British by Offa and made part of the kingdom of Mercia, only to be won back when he was defeated and slain. Then thick mist settles down upon all this land, until, in the eleventh century, the Church of S. Oswald rises up before us in all its fair proportions with its band of clergy and endowment of tithes, rich enough to excite the cupidity of the more powerful monastery of S. Peter, Shrewsbury, to which a grant of its tithes was made in 1086, the year before William the Conqueror's death, by Warren, Lt. of Earl Roger of Montgomery. Of that building nothing remains, all has passed away. We next find it known as Blanc Minster, Candida Ecclesia or Whiteminster, or the Church of Album Monasterium, and it is interesting to notice that this name might well be given to its interior as restored, at least to the body of the church. Henry II. most probably worshiped within its walls, and Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, preached in it, urging men to join in the intended crusade, when here with Giraldus Cambrensis, the guests of Fitzalan, who then occupied the castle originally built by Rainald in 1086, and rebuilt apparently in 1149 by Madog. It was Wm. Fitzalan who, during the time of the crusades in 1190, confirmed this Church of Album Monasterium with its tithes and appurtenant chapels, served by 12 secular and married priests, to the Shrewsbury monks; and Bishop Reyner, who resided near here, approved of the same grant in 1216, and got it confirmed by the Chapter of St. Asaph in 1222. But those were troublous days, or at least a little before 1216, for in the disputes and wars between John and his barons, Oswestry appears to have been burned by the former, and we may be sure the leader of his mercenaries who sacked and laid waste whatever churches he could, did not spare the sacred buildings of S. Oswald. Soon after-

wards, however, some care for its wants was shown, perhaps due to the residence of Bishop Reyner, for in 1220 the vicarage still existing was ordained, and provision made that the services of the church should be performed by the vicar and two chaplains, Philip Fitz Leofth, being the first vicar. But its peaceful days were of short duration, for, during the troubles of Henry III.'s reign, Oswestry would again appear to have been burned and plundered, a favour once more conferred upon it (about 1263) by Llewelyn, Prince of Wales; to what extent the church suffered it is impossible to say. Better days, however, dawned, for in 1277, Edward I. surrounded the town with walls, and apparently passing through it more than once, no doubt attended the services in the church; whilst, in August, 1284, the whole place must have been full of stir and bustle, for Bishop Anian and his clergy assembled here to receive the Archbishop of Canterbury (Peckham), who, with all the pomp and religious ceremonial of that age, commenced in this church his visitation of the St. Asaph diocese. We are tempted to guess that perhaps it was after these great events for Oswestry—after king, archbishop, and bishop had been here—that some great work of restoration was done, and the nave at least rebuilt, and north aisles, for the pillars and arches at the extreme west end of the church, which existed before the last restoration, might have been built about this period, being early English in character, whilst the tower, with its windows and arches for spire, was evidently built about 1300, an undertaking we might have expected as the result of these visits, if the church had been, as it probably was, seriously injured during the preceding wars. Somewhat later on still, we may suppose, the north chancel aisle was built, i.e., if the present windows are, as is, I believe, the case, correct copies of the old. This part of the church, then, would have also been in existence when another king, Richard II. was here. Before him and his Commissioners appear, we are told in Price's History, in our town in 1307 the Dukes of Hereford (afterwards Henry IV.) and Norfolk. If so, some of them must have lodged in the monastery; perhaps all, at one time or other, knelt in our church. But the misery of war was not over. The Welsh, under Owen Glyndwr, attacked and burned the town in 1400, and in 1403 assembled to join Lord Percy (Harry Hotspur) in his rebellion, but too late to be of any use. Again, probably, the church was injured, and when peace was established, and the inhabitants had recovered their losses, the work of restoration went on; the chancel, arches, pillars, and east window being of the 15th century date, the arches and pillars clearly of the early part of that century. Gutto'r Glyn, a Welsh poet in the middle of the 15th century, describes the white monastery as being on the south side of the town, i.e., the present site of the church, and speaks of the church as adorned with rich chalices, a well toned organ, and bells, and then goes on to say, "there is no better choir (none in which correctness of singing is greater or the habiliments (1) more suitable) from it to Canterbury, nor do I know any convent for monks superior to White Minster." Evil times must have once more come to them, although we have no record of how or when, for in Henry VIII.'s reign, 1540, Leland visited Oswestry, and says that of the monastery the cloisters alone were left in the memory of persons then living. Of this church he writes that "it is a very fair leddid church with a great tourrid steeple." There are some interesting data about this time which make it clear that there were special chapels in different parts of the church, although their

(1) Would not "vestments" be a better translation?—ED.

position can only be guessed. A Valor, 1535, notices a free chapel "infra ecclesiam;" of course this may mean S. Nicolas, which was in the castle, or some other in the limits of the parish. But in a will of 1540, Richard Staney (1) directs that he should be buried in Oswestry Church, "in the chapel of our blessed Lady, over against the picture of Saint Margaret the virgin," and again in 1541, Robert ap Howell (2) leaves "a lode of lead towards covering of the roof of the altars of the Rood and S. Katherine, within the parish church of Oswestry, when the roofs be ready built to receive the covering;" and also directs that his body be buried "in our Lady's chappell," the same chapel to which allusion is made in the Yale Monument, where it is described as the charcel of S. Mary. Was this the present North Chancel aisle, according to the tradition mentioned to Mr. Salwey by Mr. Bentley, then clerk? (3) No tradition exists as to the position of S. Katherine's chapel. From the last will it is clear that considerable repairs were contemplated in 1541, and one of the chalices of the church bears the date of 1575. There is no trace of the fires which raged in Oswestry about 1542 and 1567 having reached the church, but of course they may have done so, and have accounted for the restoration of this period, but there is reference in the registers to the plague of 1559 and 1585. It may be well here to notice that the registers commence with 1558, and that in 1599, in Elizabeth's reign, William Morgan, then Bishop of Llandaff, the famous translator of the Bible into Welsh, was Vicar of this church; also that the advowson of Oswestry, which had passed from Shrewsbury Abbey to the Crown, was granted by James I. to Francis Morris and Francis Phillips, from whom it was purchased by William, Earl of Craven, and settled on his nephew, the Earl and first Marquis of Powis, thence descending to the present Earl of Powis. Pennant assumes that part of the church was destroyed about 1616, and the Yale monument (1618) speaks of St. Mary's chancel as demolished in late wars. (4) What this destruction was it is difficult to say, but certainly the fine specimens of debased windows in the north chancel aisle may have been built either 1540-70 or about this period—perhaps at the same time as the Lych gate, the date of which is 1631. One chalice was also given 1635, the handsomest of all 1639. Was the old north transept window also of this period? I mean the one which existed up to a comparatively recent date. If so it would almost appear that at this time the north transept was destroyed. Had not the Yale Monument spoken of St. Mary's chancel, it might have been concluded that the north transept was the Chapel of our Lady; and then, too, possibly in lieu of it when destroyed the space was filled in between the south transept and tower. Traces of the arch of the north transept were found in the last work of restoration, but there was nothing to show when or how it was removed. Some of those who took part in what was

done in 1631 must have had to bear the bitter pain of seeing the sad havoc once more made in this House of God during the troubled days of the civil war. In 1644 the Royalists, who garrisoned the town for their king, fearing lest the enemy should make use of the tower of the Church to command the walls, pulled down the upper part of it (Gough says, leaving the part where the bells hung. The Terrier 1685 says, levelling it with the Church); and also destroyed the middle part of the building, leaving the east end standing. Here the Parliamentary forces must have made their onslaught, 200 of them fighting their way into the Church, and finally gaining the tower as well. Later on the Royalists again attacked the Church and took it, retiring, however, when they found that reinforcements for the garrison were at hand. How much the Church must have suffered we can judge from its condition before the late restoration. For though after Humphrey Wynn, the rightful vicar, who had been deprived in 1650, that Rowland Nevett might be intruded, was restored in 1662, and in the time of his successor (Richard Edwards 1664—1680) efforts were made to rebuild the church, and much was done—the tower, for example, at great cost, repaired and the upper part built as it now stands, and the whole church prepared for worship—yet the pillars of the nave were but masses of rough masonry, and the roof and arches of the meanest character possible, and this throughout the whole of the nave, aisles, and transepts with the exception of two or three pillars at the west end. For these repairs a brief was granted in 1675, their cost being £1,500. The old font bears date 1662, and was given by Lloyd, the governor, whose arms are on it. Over the doorway, on the outside of the tower, apparently then made, is 1692. The date on the altar, at present in the Welsh church, is 1672. The windows then erected seem to have been generally debased perpendicular, of a better character than those which followed. In 1707 there was a gift of a flagon, and planting of the fine trees in the churchyard; iron gates in 1738, and in 1749 it is recorded that there was daily morning service. Then there must have been terrible churchwardens' work, until in 1858-61, there was something better, the chancel being cleared of whitewash, and the east window stonework renewed, the present painted glass being inserted, whilst in 1860—1862 the same was also done for the windows in the chancel aisle. The principal features of the work so satisfactorily done (1872—1874) under the able guidance of Mr. Street, were the entire reconstruction of the interior of the body of the church, the nave being widened a third, roofs, arches, pillars, windows—all are new, those in the north aisle being alone reproduced. The roofs of the chancel, screens, pavements, sacraia, sedilia, altar, wall decorations—these, too, are new, as well as the vestry and the fittings of the church throughout. The floors of the nave have been lowered and levelled, those of the chancel and aisles raised, the old tombstones, which were becoming almost illegible, having been carefully preserved in the tower. Painted glass has been placed in various windows. The re-opening of the church after its restoration was on October 13th, 1874, the Bishops of Rochester and St. Asaph being present. Stormy and troubled has been our church's history in the past; may its future be full only of peace and blessing. "Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces;" "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved, God shall help her, and that right early."

The examination of the church was then proceeded with, and opinions expressed as to the positions of the various chapels or altars. Mr. Spaul produced a plan he had kindly prepared, which was of material assistance.

(1) See *Bye-gones*, Apr. 3, 1879.

(2) See *Bye-gones*, June 14, 1875, and June 19, 1879.

(3) For letter by Mr. Salwey on this subject, see *Bye-gones*, Feb. 26, 1873.

(4) The inscription on the Yale monument (which is in the north aisle) is obscure. If it was erected after the civil wars, as is most likely, then it may be presumed that Yale and his wife had been buried in 1616, in a chancel destroyed in those wars. If erected in 1616, then the wars must have been "incursions of the Welsh" some writers speak of. The inscription is as follows:—"In memory of Mr. Hugh Yale alderman of this town and Dorothy his wife daughter of Roger Roden Esq. of Burton in the county of Denbigh whose bodies are interr'd within ye chancel of this Church commonly call'd St. Mary's before its demolition in the late wars anno 1616." Until a very recent period the church itself was called St. Mary's, on the strength of this inscription.—Ed.

In answer to the Vicar, Mr. BLOXAM said that the arches of the chancel were of the 14th century. The communion plate in the vestry was afterwards examined. Mr. BLOXAM said that one of the cups was not a chalice, but a hanap or secular cup, which he thought was given to the Church in the 17th century.

Mr. HOWELL EVANS pointed out that the date was 1575.

Another, Mr. BLOXAM said, was a Caroline cup. There was also a chalice of the date of 1639, and a beautiful flagon (Britannia marked) dated 1707. A handsome carved oak press at the end of the vestry, for holding the surplices was, the VICAR said, entirely made by Captain Arkwright of wood taken from the church during the restoration. In examining the nave of the church, a small 13th century window at the west end was pointed out.

The VICAR called Mr. Bloxam's attention to a massive round headed doorway on the north side of the tower.

Mr. BLOXAM thought it was of the 12th century, but on going in the tower to the other side of it, where it is elliptical, he said it was very difficult to decide, but he thought it was an Elizabethan arch. Some of the party afterwards ascended the tower, where the great thickness of the walls was remarked. The springers for a spire are to be seen in the upper part of the tower. The windows in the tower were assigned to the 14th century. After the inspection of the church the visitors adjourned to the Wynnstay Arms, where an excellent luncheon was provided. After luncheon they started in carriages provided by Mr. Drew, for Park Hall; a visit to Oswestry Castle and walls, and to Hen Dinas (Old Oswestry), the site of a British encampment, having been abandoned in consequence of the wretched state of the weather.

On reaching Park Hall, the residence of the Hon. Mrs. Stapleton Cotton, between Oswestry and Whittington, the visitors very much admired this fine old house, with its black and white timbered walls. It is a very interesting specimen of the domestic architecture of the period (circa 1640), and its furniture and surroundings are in keeping with its delightfully old-world character. The domestic chapel, with its quaintly carved gallery and stained glass windows, is particularly interesting. There is an entrance from the drawing-room into this chapel.

Mr. THOMAS said that it was noticed in the Parish Register 1592, but it was not certain that any public service was ever performed there, but he did not think there was any record of the consecration.

On the exterior is the inscription, "Petra est ostium Christus est." The Park was formerly the seat of the Powells, and was successively purchased by the Charltons and Kinchant's. The foundation of an old stone wall was lately discovered. In one of the rooms are two fine specimens of armour of a late period, that of Henry VIII.

Whittington Castle was the next place visited, but the pouring rain prevented a more than cursory examination of it.

Mr. BLOXAM said it was a small Edwardian Castle, and the probable site of a tower was pointed out. The archaeologists then drove to Halston, the residence of Mr. Edmund Wright, who received them at the entrance, and they then proceeded to the curious old chapel in the park, some little distance from the house. The building is a very plain one, and is chiefly interesting for its historical associations.

Mr. BLOXAM assigned the building itself to the early half of the 16th century, but the windows and fittings are much later. On each side of the Communion table are paintings of Moses and Aaron, and there are also paintings in the chapel of John the Baptist, David playing the harp, and the Ascension. The entrance to the Mytton

vault is in front of the Communion table, and here the famous sportsman, "Jack Mytton," lies buried.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS said that the Halston (or Holy-stone) was a foundation of the Knights Templars, who had an establishment there. It was added to the Knights Hospitallers by Fitz Allan in 1165, and in 1187 Roger de Powys gave an endowment to the foundation. The early foundation itself was subject to the head house or commandery there, at first to the Knights Templars, and afterwards to the Knights Hospitallers, who had cells or subject houses for the protection and entertainment of travellers in North Wales. These cells were in some of the wildest parts of the mountains. They were at Dolgynwal, Tregynon, Ysppyty Ifan, Llanwddyn, and Carno, inter alia, and right across from Powys Land to Machynlleth. Henry VIII., at the Dissolution, granted the property of that house to John Lewster, who sold it to Alan Horde. Queen Mary granted it back again to the Prior and Brethren of St. John, and Queen Elizabeth made it over to William Horne, who eventually gave it to Edmund Mytton, of Habberley, in exchange for lands, and from the Mytton family it came in the possession of Mr. Wright. It was a peculiar, and therefore independent of parochial or episcopal jurisdiction, but a late Act had taken away all exemption of peculiars.

Mr. HARTSHORNE said he thought the main timbers were of the time of Queen Mary, the windows being of later insertion. On the south side of the chapel hangs a funeral achievement, with coat armour. There is a carved oaken gallery at the west end, with tracery of a rather early date (probably about 1470). The pulpit is dated 1725. An old stone coffin or headstone, Mr. BLOXAM said, was of 14th century date. The chapel has not been used in recent times, except for baptisms and funerals.

On leaving the chapel the party re-entered the carriages, and started for Oswestry. Some little delay was caused by the traces of one of the carriages breaking, owing to the uneven nature of the ground, but the archaeologists reached Oswestry in time to catch the market train leaving at 4 15, for Welshpool.

There was no evening meeting, but Mr. M. C. Jones, the genial and hospitable secretary of the Powysland Club, entertained a large number of the members of the Association to dinner at Gungrog.

THURSDAY.

On Thursday morning a number of the members of the Association met at the Powysland Museum, and under the guidance of the secretary, Mr. Morris C. Jones, examined the local antiquities exhibited there. They afterwards visited the parish church where the Rev. J. E. HILL, vicar of Welshpool, gave a short account of the Church and of the restoration which was carried out some years ago by Mr. Street. There is no trace of any Norman work in the church. Some time or other the whole body of the Church of the Decorated period, from the tower to the chancel was removed. A singular feature of the Church is that the nave is of much greater breadth than the chancel, and the latter instead of being in the centre lies on the north side. The Vicar in some notes made during the restoration suggests that the present nave may have covered ground once occupied by a nave and south aisle, and that the present south aisle, which projects to the line of the fourteenth century porch, is a more recent addition. The roof of the porch was taken down in 1777, and a schoolroom built over it, which was taken down in 1821. The galleries on the north and south sides of the nave still remain. An

Early English window in the chancel, which had to be removed for the construction of the organ chamber, has been replaced in the north gable. The inner arch of an old doorway of the same period, which had to be pulled down, has been replaced inside the porch. The outer one, which was pointed, crumbled to pieces when touched. The lower arch, which with the first two storeys of the tower itself is also of the thirteenth century, has been opened out, and the jambs repaired. The stops at the western side show that the floor was once at the level to which the nave has now been lowered; but on the east side there was one nine inches below showing a floor with a lower level still. The base of a font of the fourteenth century was found underneath the one then in use, and a new one, exactly reproducing so much as was discovered of the old, was erected. The restored font is the gift of the Hon. and Rev. R. O. Bridgeman and Mrs. Bridgeman, in memory of their daughter. The other font was buried in the churchyard. The nave of the Church was re-built in the sixteenth century, with the addition of the north aisle, and in the eighteenth century the nave was again rebuilt with the addition of a north aisle. During the restoration the ceiling of the nave was removed, and an open roof of pitch pine constructed. The chancel roof is said, as are also fittings of other churches in this neighbourhood, to have come from Strata Marcella, but there appears nothing to confirm this tradition. A holy water stoup was found in the early English wall, in the chancel, but it was so broken up it was found impossible to preserve it. A weathering found in the tower, showed, the Vicar said, that the eave of the roof had once been lower than the spring of the present arches. The arcaded reredos of alabaster with panels of Irish marble, is the gift of the Countess of Powis. In a recess in the north side of the sacarium is a beautiful monument, erected in the early part of 1852, in memory of the late Earl of Powis, by the Countess of Powis. On a rich tomb of alabaster lies the recumbent figure of the Earl, in his robes as a Knight of the Garter. The canopy was designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, and the figure was carved by Richardson. Inscribed upon the tomb is the following:—"Hic obdormiscit in Christo Edwardus Herbert, Comes de Powis, Episcopatus Asaphensis Conservator. Obiit die xvii. Jan. A.S. MDCCCXLVIII., æt. suæ lxiii." On a brass at the back is inscribed, "Erected by his widow, Lucy, Countess of Powis, by whom he left eight children, five sons and three daughters," with appropriate texts.

The communion plate was examined in the vestry. Amongst it is a chalice made of guinea gold, containing the measure of a wine quart, with an inscription in Latin indicating it to be the gift of Thomas Davies, Esq., in the year 1662, who held the office of Governor-General of the English Colonies on the west coast of Africa, and who presented the chalice as an offering of gratitude for his preservation from an obnoxious climate. Another gift to the church was, Mr. BLOXAM said, in reality a punch bowl, used as an alms basin. It was given by John Edmonds in 1773.

A visit to Powis Castle was the next item on the day's programme, and it had been looked forward to with rather high anticipations; but the weather again appeared hostile to antiquarian research. The rain fell heavily as the party made their way to the Castle, some on foot and the rest in carriages, and in some degree, at any rate, spoilt their enjoyment of the sight of the richly wooded park, in which herds of deer gaze timorously at the passer by, the stately castle towering high above the trees, and the striking view of the massive Breidden, and the tapering Moel-y-Golfa, which opens

out as one nears King Charles's entrance to the Castle. Owing to the rain the camps in the park, which were down on the programme, were not visited. On reaching the Castle the party were very courteously received by Mr. Newill, his lordship's land steward, who showed them over the building. The State apartments include the drawing room, dining room, library, King Charles's bedroom, and the Duke's room, and the party examined with great interest the antiquities, pictures, and other works of art to be seen there. The large collection of very rare and costly books testifies to the scholarly taste of the present owner of the Castle. The pictures are principally historic and family portraits. Among them are portraits of Sir William Herbert, first Lord Powys, of Powys Castle, who died in 1655, and of his wife, Lady Eleanor Percy, who is represented with a hoop, and a curious dress of brocade with a pointed stomacher, a ruffe, and a red skirt; and of William, second Marquis and Duke of Powis, who died in 1745. There are four portraits of Edward, first Lord Herbert of Chirbury. One of these is a full-length portrait, representing Lord Herbert in the robes of the Order of the Bath. The painter is not known. In a small picture by Isaac Oliver he is represented as resting on the ground before fighting a duel. There are portraits of Richard, the second Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and of his two successors. There is also a portrait of Charles II. Amongst the curiosities shown to the visitors were a number of bronze implements, some of them very rare, and most of them in a good state of preservation. They were found in 1862, by some drainers at work on the Powis Estate at Guilsfield, a little above the site of the Abbey of Strata Marcella, and about one hundred yards from a small camp.

Mr. BLOXAM said they belonged to the latest British period, and another gentleman described them as Romano-British.

There was also an ancient Roman "cippus," or sepulchral monument, in excellent preservation, which bore the following inscription:—"Diis manibus M. Caecilio sp. f. Suc. Rufo solario ab luco semelas ex testamento ejus calvisia zosime et M. Caecilii calippus heredes fecerunt." Another curiosity of a different kind is the model in marble of a cat in the act of killing a serpent, thus, so the story runs, saving the life of the great Lord Clive. Some interesting historical documents were shown by Mr. Newill. One of these, dated the 28th of April, 1660, was an order of the Council of State, making null and void a previous order for the demolition of the Red or Powis Castle. Some breaches, however, were ordered to be made in it. Another order, dated the 11th of June, 1649, was for the demolition of Montgomery Castle, for which Richard, Lord Herbert of Chirbury, was to be compensated out of the second payment of the fine imposed for his delinquencies. The order was signed by Henry Scobell, Clerk of Parliament. A manuscript dated the 7th of May, 1619, contains the King's instructions to Sir Edward Herbert, Knight, on his appointment as ambassador to the French King. The signature of James I. is appended to the document. King Charles's bedroom excited a good deal of interest. On the front of the State bedstead are carved the letters "C.R." Some of the old towers of the Castle, which Mr. PICTON suggested were probably of the 13th century, have been converted into bedrooms. The plaster ceilings in some of the rooms were assigned to about the middle of the 17th century, when great alterations were made in the Castle. The gallery, which is of about the same period, is a very good one of its kind. Before the visitors left, the skies happily cleared for a time and the sun shone forth brilliantly, and

they were much delighted with the magnificent views to be had from the windows and terraces. The park and gardens, freshened by the rain, looked very beautiful in the clear sunshine. After inspecting the ballroom and museum and the cellars the visitors proceeded to take their departure, but, before doing so,

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Newill, and in doing so said it was a great treat to them to see an old historic house like that, one of the very few great castles which had survived the vicissitudes of time, and were still inhabited, and their thanks were due to Mr. Newill, who had so kindly shown them all over the house, and had explained to them a great deal about it. They would have another opportunity that evening of passing a vote of thanks to the Earl of Powis, and meanwhile he begged to propose that their very hearty thanks be given to Mr. Newill for his kindness and courtesy.

Mr. BLOXAM cordially seconded the vote of thanks, and Mr. NEWILL, in responding, said he was much obliged for the compliment, and he was only sorry that he had been unable to give them more information. Although he had been connected with that place as long as sixty-two years, he had only been all over it a very few times. He was sure it was a very great gratification to Lord Powis that his castle should be visited by the members of the Association.

About one o'clock the party started for Garth, the residence of Capt. Mytton, who had invited them to luncheon there. They were heartily welcomed by Capt. Mytton. Amongst the objects of interest exhibited were pedigrees of the Wynns of Garth, and the Myttons of Pontyscowrhyd, a number of ancient manuscripts, old coins, &c. To one of the documents, a charter, dated the 6th of July, seventh of Henry V., is appended a seal of Sir Edward de Cheriton, Lord of Powis, which is adopted as the seal of the Powys-land Club. The seal is described in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*. The device on the shield is that of a "ruddy lion ramping in gold. This remarkable seal is not quite perfect, the edge having been splintered away, and the figure in the place of the crest having lost its head, which the engraver has supplied. It appears to have been a round seal surrounded by an inscription. . .

. . . The side supporters, or rather ornamental figures, for it is said that supporters in the present heraldic sense of the word were unknown in that period, are wild men sitting astride of lions couchant." Another document was one bearing date 6th of July in the seventh year of King Henry V., wherein certain grants were made to Sir Griffith Vychan, Knight banneret of Agincourt Field, and to his elder brother Ieuan, by Edward de Cheriton, fourth and last lord of Powis of his name, for the capture of the celebrated Lollard chief and reformer, Sir John Oldcastle, who, in February of the preceding year, 1418, was burnt as a heretic in St. Giles's Fields. Some old and rare painted glass in one of the windows contains the arms of Sir Griffith Vychan. The motto on the crest is, "Fide ne diffide." A small bronze boar which was found near Gaerfawr, was also exhibited.

Mr. BARNWELL, in a paper on the early antiquities of Montgomeryshire, suggests that as the 20th Roman legion, which was stationed for a long period at Chester, had a boar as their badge, that it is not unlikely that this little figure was in some way or other connected with the soldiers of the legion.

The visitors having been entertained to a sumptuous luncheon, Professor BABINGTON conveyed their thanks to Captain Mytton for his generous hospitality, and they then proceeded to Guilsfield Church, which is one of the

finest and most interesting in the county. Guilsfield is a pleasant village situated in one of the best wooded and most fertile parts of Montgomeryshire. On a tombstone at the entrance to the churchyard is the following epitaph: "Here lieth ye body of Richard Jones, of Moysgwin, gent., who was interred Dec. ye 10th, 1707, aged 90.

Under this yew tree
Buried would hee bee,
For his father and hee
Planted this yew tree."

The tombstone is overshadowed by the yew tree referred to in the epitaph. Dr. Ramage, in a paper published in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, gives the dimensions of the tree, and, assuming that Richard Jones planted it when he was a boy, calculates its age at about 250 years. (1) There are, however, other yew trees in Guilsfield churchyard which are larger and older than the one planted by Richard Jones. Guilsfield church has just been restored by Mr. Street chiefly at the cost of Capt. Mytton and the Earl of Powis, and on Thursday, August the 7th, the re-opening services were celebrated. The church consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, a massive embattled tower, with a small spire at the west end, and an unusually large and fine south porch, with vestry above. The older parts of the church are of the 14th century. The roofs of the church are remarkably fine. That of the nave is of the early part of the 14th century, and is a very good specimen of the oakwork of Montgomeryshire. The four bays over the eastern part of the church are said to be of the Tudor period, with a pattern of small squares, with carved bosses at the intersection of the rafters. This carving is very elaborate, and no less than 120 varieties have been counted. A popular tradition says that the chancel roof was brought from the celebrated Abbey of Strata Marcella, to which Guilsfield was attached, but there is little or no reason for it.

Mr. BLOXAM assigned the chancel ceiling, which is an excellent specimen of rich old carved ceiling work, to the 15th century, and the nave ceiling to the 14th. The general fabric of the church was, he said, throughout of the 14th century. The rood screen, which was entirely new, was designed by Mr. Street, but the screens of the north and south aisles of the chancel are old work restored. The beautiful new pulpit of carved oak, upon a stone pedestal, was the gift of Colonel Heyward.

The VICAR gave a short account of the church and its restoration. He said that the arrangement of the fittings before the restoration was of the most extraordinary character that could be imagined. The body of the church was covered with seats and pews of all sorts and sizes, the ground plan of which could be compared to nothing known, unless it might be compared to that of a rabbit warren. A stout farmer and his wife used to sit facing each other in a very small pew upon seats as narrow as a knife board, while one or two of the pews were as large as a good sized room. The pews formed a perfect net work, so as to make it difficult to get to them. Then, again, there was an extraordinary gallery over the south door, which appeared to have no support, and to be in imminent danger of falling. With regard to a curious projecting wall on the north west side of the nave, the Vicar said it appeared that the architect had made a mistake with regard to the line of arcade, so that he was obliged to put this in to fill up the space between the arcade and the tower. A holy water stoup in the church, Mr. BLOXAM said, was early 15th century work. The old parish chest was hewn from one block of wood.

(1) For an earlier calculation see *Bye-gones*, Jan. 5, 1876.

The next place visited by the Archæologists was the camp at Gaervavr, which is about a mile from the village. It was found to be a pretty stiff climb to the top of it. The camp, which was reached about five o'clock, commands a view of a great extent of country, and Mr. Thomas pointed out the positions of the numerous camps and stations which were visible from it. It was said to be originally a British camp, for, as a rule, Roman camps are square, while British camps are round, and Roman camps are in valleys, while British camps are on the hills. The camp, however, may have been subsequently occupied by the Romans. It is extensive, and is for the most part well defined. The defences were partly natural, and partly artificial.

The Rev. D. P. LEWIS said that probably the camp was not the site of a great fortress, but was simply used for defensive purposes.

Mr. THOMAS thought the camp was much more important than a mere camp for defence, as it was so very strongly placed.

On their return to the village of Guilsfield, the Archæologists received an invitation to take a cup of tea at the Vicarage, and after thanking Mr. Lewis for his welcome hospitality, they drove back to Welshpool, which they reached about half-past six.

EVENING MEETING.

The evening meeting, which was held at half-past eight o'clock, was presided over by Professor Babington. There was a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said he would, with their permission, say a few words about the excursions of the last two days. Wednesday, as they knew, was a very wet day, which prevented them from seeing several things which were set down in the programme, and which they wished to see. When they got to Oswestry they first went to see Oswestry Church. It had now little of antiquity about it, but as a modern church it was excellent. There was very little of the original church remaining. Almost the only old thing shown to them was a certain doorway, and there was a difference of opinion about that. Some held that it was Norman, and others that it was of a very different date indeed. His own impression was on the side of those who gave it the higher antiquity. As far as he knew that was really the oldest part of the church. It had been what was called "restored" throughout, and what was called restoration really meant, in the sense to which they were accustomed, the destruction of an old church, and the building of a new one. The history of a church was thus utterly destroyed. He protested against this misuse of the term "restoration." While he was the strongest advocate of the repair of churches, restoration in its modern sense was, he thought, utterly abominable. (Hear, hear.) The examination of the walls of the town and Old Oswestry (Hen Dinas) had to be given up, as they would simply have been drenched to the skin if they had attempted it. After leaving Oswestry they first visited Park Hall, which was a very fine oak building. He was told that the back part of the house was modern. The hall and chapel were particularly interesting. They next went to Whittington Castle. There they found a moat surrounding a considerable space, bounded on one side by an entrance gate and two towers. It was suggested that the remainder of the interior was pretty well defended by a moat, and probably by wooden buildings, which made it defensible when it required to be made so. In consequence of the deluge of rain they had to content themselves with examining the ruins in a very cursory manner. They then went to Halston chapel, about which he had very little to say. He must confess he was disappointed with it, and hardly

thought it worth the journey through some exceedingly swampy fields, but he believed it was rather because it belonged to an ancient family that many persons wished to see it. In spite of one or two accidents they got safely back to Welshpool, and a hospitable entertainment was given to them in the evening. (Cheers.) On that day (Thursday) the weather had been more propitious, although in the morning it rained in torrents. They were much interested in examining Welshpool Church and in seeing how nicely it had been repaired and its condition improved since the former meeting of the Association at Welshpool. Much credit was certainly due to the present incumbent for the pains he had taken to put the church into good order. After speaking for a little while about Welshpool church, Professor Babington referred to the Powysland Museum, which he said he had examined with great interest. He hoped it would be well supported by the inhabitants of that town and neighbourhood, for it was exceedingly deserving of support. (Cheers.) The museum would be a credit to any town, and he was sure that the town of Welshpool had great reason to be thankful to Mr. Morris Jones and the other gentlemen who had taken so much pains to bring together a collection of antiquities and other objects of interest. The museum was in every way deserving of that support which he had heard it said that it did not get in that town. He hoped the report which had come to his ears was incorrect, for such a collection ought to be supported by those who lived in the neighbourhood. (Cheers.) As he did not go to Powis Castle he would say nothing about it. They went to Guilsfield, and examined the church. They found that the tower was considerably older than the rest of the church. In that church, again, there were curious anomalies not easy to explain. The arch at the tower end of the church interested them very much. They were also struck with the very large size of the porch, which was really a magnificent addition to the church, and it would be interesting to ascertain why so large a porch was built. After enjoying the admirable hospitality offered by Capt. Mytton, they proceeded to the ancient camp on the hill side, Gaervavr. That camp attracted his attention many years ago, and he ventured to write a short article upon it in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. He believed that many of his conclusions had been disputed, and he confessed he was rejoiced that they had been, because it showed that the subject was attracting attention. The camp well deserved a visit from those who took the trouble to climb the rather steep hill which led up to it, and to examine the details. He would now call upon Mr. Picton to read the paper he had promised them. (Cheers.)

Mr. PICTON then read a paper on "The System of Place Names in Wales compared with that of England." We purpose giving the substance of this paper another week.

After a remark upon it by Mr. ROBINSON,

Mr. R. WILLIAMS, of Newtown, was then called upon to read a paper on "Henry III. in Montgomeryshire." When the young king (for he was barely ten years old) succeeded upon the death of King John in October, 1216, to the throne of England, his relations with his brother-in-law, Prince Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, were those of open hostility. In 1223 he came with an army to the marches of Wales to raise the siege of Builth Castle, and coming as far as Montgomery, began the building of the present castle, which took about two years in the building, and to which the King contributed liberally both in money, men, and materials. On this occasion the King spent a little more than a week at Montgomery. His second visit, in 1228, to relieve the castle, then besieged by the Welshmen, is better known from the account given of it by Matthew Paris. To this account Mr. Williams now supplemented

many very interesting details from the calendar of the Close Rolls and other authorities. From these documents he was enabled to trace the King's progress and his doings day by day from Westminster to Montgomery, and much of what passed during his stay of upwards of a month at Montgomery and in the Vale of Kerry. He also discussed the question of the probable sites and scenes of the places and events mentioned by Matthew Paris. Cridia, the "Abbey of White Monks," he maintained was but a corrupt form of Crefydd-dy ("a religious house"). Its site had long been a puzzle to archæologists, but he adduced some good reasons for his opinion that it was near Black Hall, in the township of Cefnynmynach ("the Monk's Ridge"), Kerry. He also hazarded a conjecture that the capture of William de Bruce, for whose ransom the country of Buth was offered but rejected, and who subsequently was hanged by Llewelyn in April, 1230, under circumstances to which tradition has lent a romantic interest, took place at Cwmydalfa ("the glen of capture"), in the same neighbourhood. Also that the site of Hubert's Folly—the castle which Hubert de Burgh began and nearly completed at great expense, but which he was in three months' time compelled to pull down again—was upon Penycastell, close to Cwmydalfa, overhanging the "Avernian chasm" of Cwm uffernol.

As there was no time for any discussion, the CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Williams for his interesting paper, and called upon

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS to read his paper on "Early Powys." Mr. Thomas commenced his paper on "Early Powys" by discussing the question of its etymology—whether a general name for the "pau," "pagus," or country in general, as distinct from its chief town under Roman occupation, or whether derived directly from such a town, say Bovium. Remarking that the name "Ordovices," by which the inhabitants were known to the Romans of Tacitus's time, could not be identified in the earliest Welsh poems, he proceeded to enumerate some of the names under which different portions of Powys land were spoken of in those and other early authorities. Such were Teyrnllwg, Meigen, Argoed, Mochnant, Fferyllwg, and, if we may trust the life of St. Beuno, Glewisg. Following in this portion the line marked out by the President in his inaugural address, he briefly described the remains of British, Roman, and Cymric work, that threw light upon this obscure period, and then he went on to quote from the earliest Welsh poems stanzas that bore reference to the places, manners, and customs of Powys in those little known days. Among those which he quoted were, "The Graves of the Warriors," some of which spoke of the Long Mountain, the uplands of Mathafarn, and the Cain Valley. Next he gave a running commentary on the "Elegy of Prince Cynddylan," after which he worked in Cynddelw, the Laureate Bard of Meifod's Poem on the Fourteen Tribes of Powys—pointing out as far as was possible the districts they appear to have occupied, the peculiarities by which they were distinguished, and the era from which they seemed to date, and this he supplemented by another poem, in which the same bard had handed down the tradition of his own time as to the "Privileges of the men of Powys." These were compared with some of the "Privileges of the men of Arfon," and were made to throw light on the social and military customs of their time. The language was admitted to be obscure and difficult of translation, and whilst Mr. Thomas did not profess to maintain the perfect accuracy of his version, he believed that he had hit the general meaning. It was ground that had not been touched upon in this direction before, and even should he

be proved to be wrong in some of his inferences, he would rejoice in drawing attention to the subject and inducing others to work it out more fully and more clearly. Mr. Thomas's paper was full of the original quotations to illustrate his points, but as that was not necessary for our purposes we omit the Welsh, and will recommend those who may desire further information upon it to consult the pages of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*, the interesting and valuable journal of the Association, in which it will in due time be printed.

Mr. R. WILLIAMS was next called upon to read a highly interesting paper by Mr. E. R. Morris on "Traces of Celtic and Saxon occupation as indicated by place names in the neighbourhood of Montgomery," more especially in the districts of Corndon, the Rea valley, the Camlad and the Kerry districts. The object the writer had in view was to indicate by means of place names the many holdings secured by Saxon colonization around Montgomery, and also to show how in the more sterile and less accessible spots our forefathers, the Welsh, who preceded them in the occupation of the country have impressed by Celtic names evidence of their prior holding. He adduced a large number of names taken from different localities to show that although a wave or a succession of waves of Saxon colonists occupied the district to the east, north-east and south of Montgomery in the more accessible and more genial parts, the mountain tops, the poorer lands, the Cwms, Nants and Cefns indicate a previous or a concurrent occupation by a people who, if history is correct, must have retreated before the Saxon invaders at least a thousand years ago. But "they (the names) are more stationary than even the hills themselves. The language they belong to has altogether, except the parts which they themselves form of it, vanished from the district—the busy people who articulated it have long been forgotten—no other memorial, in those parts, of their existence remains, but there, faithful to their trust, like sentries at their posts, after thousands of years of service, stand these significant and well chosen epithets, proffering to the modern student a clue at once to the speech and race of those who placed them there."

The Rev. E. B. Smith, rector of Llandrinio, and Mr. George D. Harrison of Welshpool, were elected members of the Association, and the re-appointment of the retiring members of the Committee was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN expressed his regret that there was no time for any discussion upon the valuable papers which had been read to them that evening, and said he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to several gentlemen who had shown them hospitality, and had rendered them service in various ways. He begged to propose that they give their most hearty and sincere thanks to the Earl of Powis, Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn, M.P., Capt. Mytton, Capt. Pryce, the Rev. E. B. Smith, and the Rev. D. P. Lewis.

Mr. M. H. BLOXAM, in seconding the vote of thanks, referred to the visit of the members to Powis Castle. He said he was exceedingly pleased with the old Edwardian fortress, now turned into a kind of palatial residence. The Powis family were pretty well noted for their hospitality. When, two years ago, the Archæological Institute visited Hereford the brother of the Earl of Powis, the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Hereford, gave them a most kindly welcome. (Hear, hear.) An Irish welcome was said to be a straw and potato, which were supposed to be symbolic of bed and board. They had, however, something more than a potato to eat when they visited the hospitable mansion of Capt. Mytton. (Cheers.) Without in the least disparaging Irish hospitality, he thought Welsh hospitality was equal to it.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS said that a resolution had been placed in his hands which he had very great pleasure in proposing—"That the thanks of the Cambrian Archaeological Association be given to the Mayor and Corporation of Welshpool for the use of the Town Hall." When they decided to visit Welshpool, the Mayor and Corporation received the announcement with very great cordiality and courtesy, and one of the very first things they did was to place at their disposal the Town Hall in which to hold their meetings. (Cheers.) It of course made their visit much more pleasant and agreeable when they met with a welcome such as had been accorded to them there. He had great pleasure in seeing the Mayor and other representatives of the Corporation present with them. He hoped they would not think the members of the Association were simply a lot of diggers of old bones and of old stones, but that they felt an interest in the districts they visited, and that they hoped to be able to make them more interesting to the inhabitants themselves, by enabling them to become more fully acquainted with their history. It was twenty-three years ago in that Town Hall, or rather in the Town Hall which preceded it, that he was first bitten with the archaeological mania, and if he had at all helped to carry on the work in any way, it was to that meeting in 1856 that he would attribute it. (Hear, hear.) He only hoped the same effect might be produced upon many of those he saw before him. (Cheers.)

Mr. PICTON seconded the resolution in a humorous speech. He said he had a sort of claim to second the motion, as one "Pool" ought to have some sympathy with another "Pool." In Fluellen's famous comparison between Macedon and Monmouth, he said there was a river in Macedon and a river in Monmouth, and that there were "salmons in both." (Laughter.) Now there was a river in Welshpool and a river in Liverpool, but he could not say that there were "salmons in both." To make a further comparison, Liverpool had a Mayor and Corporation and Welshpool had a Mayor and Corporation. He was not mayor of Liverpool, and did not think he ever should be, but he was sure that if ever the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool had the good fortune to entertain the Cambrian Archaeological Association in Liverpool they would be delighted to do so. This was not beyond the range of possibility, as Liverpool was generally considered the metropolis of North Wales. He was confident if they ever did do so the Mayor and Corporation would give them as hearty a welcome as they had received in Welshpool. (Cheers.)

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The Rev. Prebendary DAVIES then proposed a vote of thanks to the Local Committee, and especially to Mr. Morris C. Jones—(cheers)—for their efficient and successful services. He said no words of his could fully express the appreciation of those services by the members of the Association. With regard to Mr. Morris Jones he was bound to say that that gentleman had been preparing for their visit a much longer time than the Local Committee generally. For the last nine or ten years, and probably longer, he had been working for the Museum which had afforded them such an excellent *locale*, and had been so useful both for consulting books of reference, and also for examining the interesting objects which were connected with their wanderings through that district. He did not know any other county in Wales where they would have met with such a reception. Sometimes excellent local collections were brought together for the occasion and afterwards dispersed, but there they had a permanent collection ready to hand. When his friends asked him, as they probably would,

what was the staple commodity of Montgomeryshire, he should fearlessly say it was its museum. His friend, Mr. Lewis, who had just left the room, and whom he had known a great many years, he looked upon as a thoroughly good local and Welsh archaeologist. He trusted that when the Association met again at Welshpool they would find that the museum had made the whole town archaeologists. (Cheers and laughter.)

The Rev. E. L. BARNWELL, in seconding the motion, referred to the admirable manner in which the local committee had organized the necessary arrangements for the meeting, for which, however, they were especially indebted to Mr. Morris Jones. With regard to the museum, there was nothing of the kind, so far as he knew, in any other part of Wales, and from his knowledge of the Principality, which extended over thirty years, he did not see much probability of the example being followed in the other counties. A few years ago a small but interesting and valuable collection was made at Carnarvon, but he was informed that it was now dispersed, and that articles of the greatest value and interest had been distributed about the town, and no one knew what had become of them. If they had had a museum in Carnarvon, such a disreputable state of things could not have existed.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the meeting afterwards separated.

FRIDAY.

On Friday the archaeologists started from the Town Hall at half-past nine on the day's excursion. The weather was again most deplorable, and there seemed little prospect of its improving. It was thought best to drive straight to Meifod, instead of visiting by the way a camp at Bwlch Aeddan, and a dyke at Clawdd Llesg, and Cobham's garden, as it is called, between Welshpool and Penylan, said to be the scene of the capture of John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, in 1418, as had been arranged. As the party neared Meifod along the upper road, they were struck with the singular beauty of the valley. "The parish," says Canon Wynne Edwards in his *History of Meifod*, "consists of three valleys running parallel to one another, at different elevations, in a line from south-west to north-east. The easternmost valley, which is by far the largest and most fertile, is the valley of the much-famed Vyrnwy river, which runs first as the Bechan or Afon Llanwddyn, and after its junction with the Banwy river, or Afon Llanfair, about a mile and a half above the village of Meifod, as the Afon Vyrnwy, a tortuous course of eight or nine miles through this parish. The central valley, which is little more than an upland hollow about two miles long, in that ridge of hills which forms the largest portion of the parish, is watered by the little river Colwyn. . . . Seldom does any neighbourhood present, within such limited confines a more varied and striking combination of hill and dale, wood and water, precipitous rocks, and expanded floors or flats, richly massed foliage, chiefly oak, and bare uplands, than is to be found within the bounds of this single parish, the whole forming no common specimen of that peculiar scenery found in Wales and in Westmoreland, which the present Dean of Westminster, in his well-known work on Palestine, has likened to the scenes of that Holy Land, one of whose special marks it was to be found 'a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of hills.'" Meifod church is unusually large for a village church, for at one time the parish was a very extensive one. The first church is said to have been founded by Gwyddfarch, A.D.

550, one of the immediate descendants of the Britons who came over from Armorica, Brittany, and were instrumental in the propagation of Christianity in Wales. The present church was thoroughly restored by Mr. B. A. Ferrey, The Vicar, the Rev. D. R. Thomas, says that the earliest portion of the south arcade partakes of the nature of long and short work, and the masonry above is probably pre-Norman or British work, contemporary with Saxon. The Norman church brought to light during the late restoration comprises nave and north and south aisles, two arches opened out between the nave and vestry, and two on the other side, which had been walled up. The tower is an early English date. How far the Norman church extended eastward cannot be determined. Three distinct churches appear to have co-existed within the limits of the churchyard, which encloses about four acres, viz. :—Eglwys Gwyddfarch, Eglwys Tysilio and Eglwys Fair; which of these last two churches, says Mr. Thomas, is more directly represented by the present parish church it is difficult to say, for whilst it has of late been generally assumed to be that of St. Mary's as the latest of the three, it has in earlier times been held to be that of St. Tysilio. The Church of St. Mary's (Eglwys Fair) with the south chapel or chantry of slightly later date was added to the Norman Church of St. Tysilio, probably as a Lady Chapel. Some cottages at the west-end of the churchyard occupied the site of the first church of St. Gwyddfarch, and human remains were found there 200 years ago. A great deal of discussion was excited by the examination of a very ancient stone coffin lid now standing against the west wall of the south side of the church, and which according to tradition covered the remains of one of the Princes of Powys. The stone is ornamented at the head with a Greek crucifix within a circle and a Latin cross below. Some odd looking animals are also engraved on the stone, and there are curious interlacings round the borders.

Mr. BLOXAM said he should think it was probably of the early part of the eleventh century. The Greek cross, with the image of the Crucified, was, of course, a sign of its being of a very early period, probably from 1000 to 1050. It might have been antecedent to the Norman period, the relic of a church earlier than the Norman.

The VICAR said that the history of the Church had been written by two persons, the Rev. Walter Davies, curate of the parish, in the *Cumbrian Quarterly* for 1829, and by his (the Vicar's) predecessor, the Rev. Canon Wynne Edwards, in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*. Mr. Thomas read some interesting extracts from the parish registers, which date from 1595, including a long list of "briefs" for collections to be made in the Church for all sorts of purposes. During the Commonwealth instead of christenings, births were entered. Mr. Thomas said there was a curious custom in Meifod on the evening before a funeral, of tolling the bell twelve times for a married man, eleven times for a married woman, ten times for a single man, nine times for a single woman, eight times for a boy, and seven times for a girl.

After leaving the church the party proceeded (with rain falling heavily) towards Coed-y-Maen, the residence of the President of the Association, Mr. C. W. Wynn, M.P., who had invited them to luncheon. On their way they called at a cottage to see a copy of the first Welsh Bible, published by Bishop Morgan (who was at one time rector of Welshpool and afterwards vicar of Oswestry) in 1588. The owner had obtained it for a small sum. The copy is not quite perfect. On reaching Mr. Wynn's house, which stands in a delightful position on the side of the hill, they received a very cordial welcome. In the hall an interesting collection of weapons at-

tracted notice. After a short time spent in the drawing room the party were ushered in to luncheon in the dining room. Mr. J. R. Kenyon, Q.C., was amongst those present, and he afterwards joined the excursion.

Before leaving, Professor BABINGTON thanked Mr. Wynn, on behalf of the members of the Association, for his kind and generous hospitality.

The party then proceeded on their journey. On their way a few of the more adventurous spirits walked through some boggy meadows to examine a moat at the supposed site of the Old Rectory, but they made no discoveries. The archæologists then made their way to Allt-yr-Ancr, or the Anchorite's hill, upon the west side of which there were supposed to be traces of a British camp, and there are some curious shallow excavations in the rock conjectured to have been made for the purpose of supplying the garrison with water. The hill is a bold one, standing out above the village, and is said to be remarkable for its singular changes of outline according to the direction in which it is approached. The Anchorite, from whom the hill takes its name, is imagined to be Gwyddfarch, the founder of the first church in Meifod. At the top of the hill there is a magnificent view all round the horizon. Mr. THOMAS explained his reasons for believing it to be the site of a camp, and pointed out the surrounding hills with camps upon them, with which communication could be maintained. He did not think the little basins in the rocks were natural. They seemed to have been made for some special purpose. It was a very strong point for a camp. Mr. BLOXAM and Mr. PICTON, however, were very sceptical as to its ever having been a camp at all, of which they said they could see no traces. But whether a camp or not, the visitors were sufficiently rewarded for the trouble of ascending the hill by the glorious prospect which opened out before them in every direction. On the way to the site of Mathraval Castle an accident occurred which might have been serious. From some cause or other, the shafts of one of the carriages broke, and the occupants were thrown out. One of them, Mr. Picton of Liverpool, fell out on his back; but fortunately escaped unhurt.

The historic site of Mathraval Castle, at which the archæologists next arrived, overhangs the banks of the Banwy, previous to its junction with the Odwyn or Mechan, from which the river Vernieu is formed. In an interesting paper on Mathraval, published in the fourth volume of the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, the Rev. G. Sandford says, "The one side was guarded by the steep over the river, and the other three sides by a vast rampart of stone and earth, a very deep foss, and a high exploratory mount, in which had probably been a castelet filling one corner. About the year 781 the Princes of Powys took up their residence at Mathraval, and it became the seat of government for four centuries, during which a tribute of four tons of honey was paid to the reigning Prince of Gwynedd." Scarcely any vestige of Mathraval is left. "The natural beauty of the situation," remarks Mr. Sandford, "only remains to arrest the attention of the traveller, and to enhance the regret for the vanished splendour."

In the course of the examination of the site,

Mr. BLOXAM said it was no doubt originally a British work to defend the ford of the river.

Llanfair Caereinion was the next and last place visited on Friday. It was reached about half-past five o'clock. The church was re-built in 1868, with the exception of the curious wooden steeple which still remains, and which Mr. Thomas points out is characteristic of the older Montgomeryshire churches. The new church follows closely the old ground plan and has retained the old steeple, south

door, and open oak roof. In the church is a very remarkable sepulchral effigy carved in marble, of a recumbent knight. Mr. Bloxam, whose notes on the effigy have been published in the *Montgomeryshire Collections*, assigns it to the latter part of the fourteenth century. It is that, he says, of a knight armed cap-a-pie. An elaborate description of the effigy is given by Mr. Bloxam, who says that the inscription on the belt or band, extending round the figure, is a unique feature. At any rate he has never found an instance of it in England. The inscription is—"Hic jacet Davit ap [m]o [b]vraiv." . . .

After finishing their examination of the church, the party started on their homeward journey, and reached Welshpool about seven o'clock.

SATURDAY.

Although the programme for Saturday was an attractive one, there was a considerable falling off in the number who took part in the excursion, in consequence of many of the members wishing to return home on Saturday evening. Two very prominent members of the Association were unfortunately absent, Mr. Bloxam and Mr. Picton, and as there were two or three very hard knots to untie in the course of the day, they were very much missed. The morning was, for a wonder, exceedingly fine. Although there were some showers during the day, the weather was quite respectable compared with what it had been during the week. The moated mound of Luggy, near Berriew, was the first examined. Next came the stone of St. Beuno, which is a little distance down a lane leading out of the road to Montgomery. It is a very large upright stone, named after St. Beuno, a saint of the 6th century, who might have used it for a preaching station. The stone, which is partially covered with moss, is a boulder stone of trap (or igneous) rock, with clearly marked striations (the effects of glacial action).

Professor BABINGTON thought that the stone had been probably in the glacial periods carried by the ice to this spot as the same kind of stone is found in the hills of the district, and had been tilted up by human agency. The stone is 3 feet at the base, 6 feet in height, and 7 feet 6 inches on the slope. Hen Domen or the old Tump was next visited. It is a remarkably fine and uninjured moated mound, in a field by the road side a mile north of Montgomery. Mr. MICKLEBURGH, who lives close by, met the archaeologists and showed them the Tump. He said that calcined stones were found there, showing that the mound had been used for the purpose of a beacon. Mr. THOMAS read a description of the mound, from a paper by Mr. G. T. Clarke, published in the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. The mound is about thirty feet high and seven yards diameter on its flat top, and its sides are steep. It rises out of a circular moat about ten yards wide. "The position of the earthwork," says the writer, "is selected with much judgment. Though very accessible as a residence it commands an extensive view, looking towards the south and east over Montgomery and Chirbury, and to the north and west over the Roman camp marked as Caer Flos in the ordnance, and a considerable range of the vale of the Severn." The old town of Montgomery was soon afterwards reached. The church bells rang a merry peal in honour of the visitors, who were here joined by several gentlemen from the neighbourhood. The picturesque ruins of the Castle were first visited, and great was the admiration expressed at the beautiful view obtained from the summit of the Castle hill. "Although only a heap of ruins is left of this once famous castle, there is one thing time cannot efface,

and that is, the glorious view from the rock on which these ruins lie." Part of the Castle defences lie at the very extremity of the rock which falls perpendicularly for a distance of 200 feet. Above the Castle hill is Frydd-Faldwin, a very large and fine example of a British camp.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS read a paper by Mr. G. T. Clarke upon "The Castle of Montgomery: Notes upon its Structure and its History." Montgomery Castle has been claimed as the birthplace of George Herbert, but this is disputed. A prominent object from the Castle heights is the County Gaol, which, under the Prisons Act, has ceased to be used. The remains of the town wall were afterwards inspected, and the archaeologists afterwards proceeded to view Montgomery Church, where they were received by the Rector, Mr. Parker. The interior of this fine church, which was restored by Mr. Street some two or three years ago, consists of a nave, two transepts, and a chancel. The chancel is separated from the church by a beautiful carved screen, said by popular tradition to have been removed from the neighbouring monastery of Chirbury. In the south transept, known as the Lymore Chapel, are three monuments—a large alabaster canopied tomb of Richard Herbert, father of the celebrated Lord Herbert of Chirbury, and of his brother George Herbert, the poet and divine. The tomb, although erected by Magdalene, the widow of Richard Herbert, contains full length figures of both, and is surmounted by a very handsome canopy. There are also the effigies of eight children. There are two recumbent armoured figures lying side by side close to the larger monument, both without inscription of any kind. Some discussion took place as to the date of one of these effigies. In the later effigy the head is uncovered, with long hair flowing down to the shoulders. This one Mr. Planché thinks is of the date of Henry VII., and the other about a century earlier. He says "The long hair of the later figure shows it to be of Henry VII. reign, the hair being then worn long, whereas in Henry VIII. time it was polled." A paper in the *Montgomeryshire Collections* states and it is clear that the earlier of the two effigies is that of an Earl of March, and that the later effigy is probably that of another Earl of March. In the same paper it is said that Mr. William Wilding, of Montgomery, has formed an opinion that it is that of Sir Richard Herbert, knight, the first of that family who settled in Montgomeryshire.

While the party were at Lymore, the RECTOR read Mr. Street's report upon the church before the restoration, from which we extract the following:—"The fabric of this church is not of very much interest. The most noticeable is that though the ground plan is cruciform, and though this is very markedly shown in the exterior, the fact is as much as possible disguised in the interior. In the course of restoration it will be necessary to rebuild the arches (now destroyed) which opened from the nave to the north transept, and in my opinion they ought to be in architectural design and in material as nearly as possible similar to the south transept arches. The roofs and the chancel stalls and screens give the whole interest to the building, and ought to be most carefully and perfectly restored to their original state. The original design of the roofs is not quite certain. The chancel roof is modern, and the nave roof is constructed after two entirely different designs; the western half being a fine open roof, with arched principals and hammer beams, and crisped purline braces, whilst the eastern half is divided by ribs into a series of square panels. . . . The screens and stalls are extremely fine in their architectural character, and ought to be restored and completed throughout in the most careful

manner. The remarkable features here are (1) that the screen is double, the two screens crossing the east end of the nave showing a space of from four to five feet between them; and (2) that the inner screen was filled in with close boarding behind the stalls, so that it must have been intended for use in a church where the people were unprovided for. I am inclined to think that the popular account is the true one, and that this screen, &c., were removed from a religious house and brought here, and set up again as we see them, only half complete. . . . I have seldom seen finer or older work than this, and it is most earnestly to be desired that no attempt should be made to remove it, instead of carefully restoring it."

A discussion took place with reference to the chancel screen, but no definite conclusion was arrived at.

On leaving Montgomery Church the visitors proceeded to the Dragon Hotel, where, through the hospitality of the Earl of Powis, a luncheon of a very sumptuous character was provided. At the top of the room was the inscription, "Success to the Archaeological Society." Mr. R. J. Harrison presided, and the vice-chair was taken by Mr. John Mickleburgh. Amongst those present, in addition to the members of the Association, were the following:—Mrs. R. J. Harrison, Caerhowel, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Jones, Cefn Bryntalch, Rev. F. W. and Mrs. Parker, Montgomery, Mr. W. and Miss Wilding, Montgomery, Mrs. W. Mickleburgh, Montgomery, Miss Mickleburgh and Mr. John Mickleburgh, junr., Hendemon, Rev. F. B. and Mrs. Wollaston, Montgomery, Mr. Stephen Williams, Montgomery, Rev. W. Copleston, Devon, the Mayor of Welshpool (Mr. W. F. Parker), Mr. Charles Jones, Welshpool, Rev. J. E. Hill and Mr. J. Hill, Welshpool, Rev. J. Burd, Chirbury, Mr. and the Misses Newill, Powis Castle, Welshpool, Miss Newill, Bishop's Castle, Mr. John Bassett, Abbey Foregate, Salop, Mr. and Mrs. D. P. Owen, Welshpool, Mr. Richard Williams, Newtown, &c., &c.

After the luncheon the CHAIRMAN briefly proposed the health of Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family.

The CHAIRMAN in proposing the next toast said he very much regretted that Lord Powis was not present to welcome the Cambrian Archaeological Society to Montgomery. In his lordship's absence he (the Chairman) begged, on behalf of the inhabitants of that town and neighbourhood, to offer their most hearty welcome to the Society. (Cheers.) He hoped their visit to Montgomery would not be the least agreeable of their excursions, and that they would be able to return to Welshpool without seeing any portion of Offa's Dyke carted away. (Cheers and laughter.)

Professor BABINGTON, in returning thanks, requested Mr. Harrison to convey to Lord Powis the thanks of the Association for the hospitality and kindly feeling he had always shown towards it.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS briefly proposed the health of the Chairman, and thanked him for the interest he had shown that day in the work of the Association.

The CHAIRMAN having briefly returned thanks, this part of the proceedings terminated.

The old house of Lymore, belonging to Lord Powis, was next visited. This is a fine example of an old black and white timbered house. The mansion has three gables in front (there were formerly eight), with a wooden turret rising from the centre of the roof. The windows are square, with diamond panes. The entrance to the hall is through a spacious porch, on the front of which is inscribed "E. H., 1675." The floors of the house are all of polished oak. The wainscoting is painted white.

Amongst some ancient documents shown by Mr. Newill, was a grant, dated 1667, from James I. to Philip, Earl of Montgomery; a lease dated about 1302; and a lease of land from the Prior of Chirbury, dated 1516.

Before leaving Lymore, Mr. WOOD, of Rugby, proposed a vote of thanks to Professor Babington for his great services to the Society.

The Rev. D. R. THOMAS seconded the motion, which was carried by acclamation, and Professor BABINGTON, who appeared to be quite taken by surprise, briefly acknowledged the resolution, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Parker, the rector of Montgomery.

The RECTOR having said a few words in reply, the party drove to Chirbury, and visited the Priory Church, which was restored in 1872 by Mr. Haycock. A handsome reredos bears the inscription:—"To the glory of God and in memory of John Davies, of Marrington Hall, Esquire, who died Sept. 28th, 1877, aged 57." In the tower was found the following inscription relating to the family to which Sir Isaac Newton belonged:—"Near this place lyeth ye body of John Newton, Esqr., who departed this life the 6th of March, 1681, and who was ye seventh generation and lineally descended from Sir Richard Newton, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in the reign of King Henry the Sixth." In the churchyard the VICAR pointed out the base of a column, which no doubt belonged to the old Priory. After taking tea at the Vicarage, the party returned by way of Nanteribba and Sarn-y-Bryncaled, and reached Welshpool about seven o'clock. The Cambrian Archaeological meeting of 1879 at Welshpool was thus brought to a close.

Amongst the members of the Society present at the Welshpool meeting were the following:—Mr. C. W. Wynn, M.P., (president), Professor Babington, Cambridge, the Rev. D. R. Thomas, Meifod, Rev. R. Trevor Owen (editor of the *Archæologia Cambrensis*), Mr. G. E. Robinson, Cardiff, Mr. M. C. Jones, Gungrog, Mrs. and the Misses Jones, the Rev. E. L. Barnwell, Rev. Prebendary Davies, Moor Court, Hereford, Mr. M. H. Bloxam, Rugby, Mr. R. E. Jones, Cefn Bryntalch, Mr. R. H. Wood, F.S.A., Rugby, Capt. Mytton, Garth, Rev. H. Brown, Rector of Monk's Sherborne, Rev. Ll. Thomas, Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, Mr. J. A. Picton, F.S.A., Liverpool, Mr. James Davies, Hereford, Mr. C. Wilkins, Merthyr, Mr. A. Walford, Balham, and Miss Walford, Mr. E. Hartland, Cheltenham, Mr. Worthington Smith, London, the Rev. T. H. Lloyd, Nerquis, Mr. Hartshorne, jun.

There were also present the Mayor (Mr. W. T. Parker), Mr. V. Powell, Mr. Edward Jones, town clerk, Mr. G. D. Harrison, the Rev. S. Butcher, Rev. J. Davies Jones, Rev. J. E. Hill, Rev. D. P. Lewis, Mr. T. Sawyer, Mr. J. B. Burnett, Mr. Thomas Pryce, Batavia, the Rev. J. J. Sawyer, Leighton Vicarage, &c., &c.

The weather was the only drawback to the success of the meeting, and all the arrangements were planned and carried out in the most satisfactory manner, and special acknowledgment is due of the services rendered by the Rev. D. R. Thomas, Rev. Trevor Owen, and Mr. Morris Charles Jones, F.S.A.

During the meeting a number of excellent drawings for the *Archæologia Cambrensis* were taken by Mr. Worthington G. Smith, of Canonbury, London.

We are glad to hear that several donations have been made to the Powysland Club Museum.

SEVERN FISH.—Early in May, 1805, a sturgeon, weighing 1 cwt. 3 qrs., and measuring 9 feet in length, was said to have been caught near Highgrove, a few miles from Gloucester.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1879.

NOTES.

ROMAN REMAINS IN WALES.—Now that the new railway from Bettws-y-Coed to Festiniog is opened to the public, we may expect a rush of aggressionists from England, many of whom will be desirous of finding out some new thing upon which to dwell. A writer, now no more, tells us in one of his books upon North Wales that “coins, urns, and inscribed stones, of Roman origin, have been found in the neighbourhood” of Tan-y-Bwlch, and that “the Roman road from Uriconium to Segontium passed through the vicinity, and another from Tommen-y-Mur, where England’s monarchs oft encamped, to Caer Gai.” Assuming this to be true, here we have a new point of observation opened up to thousands, who never so much as heard of the roads mentioned above, and I should be glad if some of your learned correspondents would just describe in *Bye-gones*, how the English, who make Tan-y-Bwlch their centre, can find, and then follow from end to end, the Roman roads in question. All the natural beauties of the country they can see for themselves, but “a lamp to their feet” may be very necessary, if they are to mark the precise points of antiquarian interest where England’s monarchs encamped of old, or where the inscribed stones once stood upon the roads, or the *Tommens*, whence coins and urns were found by the searchers, who are no more on earth.

GLADWYN.

DUTY ON SALT.—In some notices of Mr. Cressett Pelham which appeared last year in *Bye-gones*, mention was made of his parliamentary exertions to get the duty on Salt repealed, and on July 31, 1878, JARCO stated that “the Duty on Salt from 1798 to 1805 was 10/- per bushel; it was then increased to 15/-; reduced to 2/- in 1823, and abolished early in 1825.” In the *Salopian Journal* for May 1, 1805, the following advertisement appears:—

SALT.

Shrewsbury—At Easter Sessions, 1805.

BY Virtue of an Act of Parliament, passed in the 35th Year of the Reign of his Majesty King George the 3d. Cap. 89, the Justices assembled at this Sessions have set the Price of Salt to be sold within the Town and Liberties of Shrewsbury, at the prices following, (viz.)

To a Person not being a Retail Trader, purchasing, 7lb. weight, 2s. 3d.; 14lb., 4s. 6d.; 28lb., 9s. 0d.; 56lb., 18s.; 112lb., £1 16s. 0d. To a Person purchasing a smaller quantity, any Sum not exceeding fourpence farthing per pound.

And the Court doth hereby give Notice, that every Person refusing to sell at such Price, or selling at a higher Price, is liable to the Penalty of TWENTY POUNDS, half to the King and half to the Informer.

By the Court, LOXDALE, Town Clerk.

Mr. Loxdale, as Clerk of the Peace, issued a similar notice for the county. I am not sure whether the Duty was 10s. or 15s. a bushel when these prices were fixed.

SCROBBES BYRIG.

QUERIES.

REV. JOSEPH VENABLES.—Monumental stones in the Oswestry Old Church previous to restoration recorded, 1. the death of the Rev. Joseph Venables, L.L.D., born 1726 died 1810. “As a minister of the gospel he illustrated his precepts by his example, &c.” 2. “Joseph Venables, A.M., died 29 May 1765, aged 69.” The same stone was also in memory of “Mary Ashburn his third daughter” who died in 1817 at the age of 81: and of her daughter who died in 1831 aged 61. In the records of the Old Chapel, Oswestry, there are documents relating to the Rev. Joseph Venables, who was minister there in 1725. Can anyone tell me who the latter was? Whether connected with the foregoing, and how?

JARCO.

REMARKABLE STONES AT RUTHIN.—In a book of newspaper cuttings that has recently come into my possession, there is the following under the date of Nov. 1835.

One of the largest blocks of stone (generally called Coed-Marchan marble) ever attempted to be moved in the Vale of Clwyd, was conveyed into the town of Ruthin on Monday, the 16th ult. for Mr. Ellis, chemist, for the purpose of supporting a high-pressure steam-engine of four-horse power, with column and entablature, for the manufacture of his universally celebrated soda-water. The Coedmarchan rocks, from their capabilities of receiving the finest polish, have contributed a rich variety to the marble show-rooms of Chester, Liverpool, &c., and have superbly enriched some of the finest dining and drawing room suites in the Principality. Some idea of the magnitude of this enormous stone may be formed by the following admeasurement, viz., 10ft. 6in. long, 3ft. 6in. broad, and 8ft. 6in. deep; the estimated weight about 8 tons. It was brought into the town on a timber-carriage of no mean strength, drawn by six fine cart-horses belonging to Shem Williams and John Wynne, the patriarchal name of *Shem* being in excellent keeping with such a *druidical* emblem. Just on arriving at its destination the chains snapped, and it was level with the ground; with considerable difficulty it was placed upon rollers, and removed close to St. George’s Well, the fame of which spring has travelled the whole of England and Wales. In appearance this unwieldy *marble morsel* resembles what the Ancient Britons would term a Cromlech, or Druidical Altar, the exact counterpart of which may be seen near Lligwy, in the parish of Penrhos, Anglesey, and is called “Coiten Arthur” or King Arthur’s Quoit. The fact of Ellis’s Ruthin Soda Water having become “universally celebrated” so far back as forty years ago is news to me as it will be I fancy to many of your readers. Are we to understand by the paragraph that it is made from the waters of St. George’s Well? And for what reason had the “fame” of that spring “travelled the whole of England and Wales”? The paragraph further says:—

If we remember right, there is also a remarkable stone at the North-west end of Mr. Ellis’s house, which tradition and history have handed down as the block on which the famous Huail was beheaded by order of King Arthur, the story of which may interest our readers. It runs thus: Huail was the second son of Caw o Frydain (or Caw of North Britain). King Arthur became jealous of his having an intrigue with one of his mistresses, and secretly watched him going to her house, the consequence of which was, they fought; after a long conflict Huail wounded Arthur in the thigh. A reconciliation, however, took place, upon the condition that Huail, under the penalty of losing his head, should never upbraid the King with this advantage over him. Arthur retired to his palace, which was then at Caerwys, in Flintshire, to be cured of his wound, but it always occasioned a limp in his walk. When he had recovered, from the severity of his wound he fell in love with a lady at Ruthin, and in order to carry on his intrigue more privately he dressed himself in female attire. As he was dancing with her Huail recognized him on account of his lameness, and said, “This dancing might do very well but for the thigh.” The King overheard him and withdrew—sent for Huail, and after upbraiding him with this breach of promise, ordered him to be beheaded upon a stone which lay in the street of the town, which was, from this event, denominated “Maen Huail.”

The writer says this stone [1835] is still to be seen at the corner of Mr. Ellis’s house, and “is an object of attraction to the stranger and Cambrian tourist.” Is the house standing in 1879 and the stone still an object of interest?

D.S.J.

REPLIES.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS’S WELSH GRAMMAR. (Aug. 6, 1879).—Mr. W. W. E. Wynne of Peniarth, in his note on this book, in *Bye-gones*, July 23, said, “It was printed at Milan.” Mr. Silvan Evans, in his letter to the *Athenæum*, of May 17, says it was supposed to be printed on the Continent in 1567. In his exceedingly interesting address to the members of the Cambrian Archæological

Society at Welshpool, on Aug. 25, Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn is reported to have said, "I may here mention that a very rare work, I may say unique in its perfect state, Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar, bears the imprint of Mediolanum, and that Sir A. Panizzi, the librarian of the British Museum, stoutly contended to the end with my father, to whom the book belonged, that it was printed (I think about 1620) in Mediolanum here, and not at Milan. Though himself an Italian, he wished the origin of the volume to be as Welsh as its subject." Your readers will see by this that not only does Mr. Charles Wynn vary in date of publication, but also in place of printing. Mr. Wynn does not inform us where "Mediolanum" is situated "here"! ARGUS.

THE VOLUNTEER REGIMENTS OF 1804 (Aug. 27, 1879).—On May 28 JARCO stated that the Whitechurch volunteers assembled at Oswestry for permanent duty in 1804, and received the special compliments of the Corporation for their good conduct. I have in my possession an original letter from "Thos. Jenkins, Whitechurch" (a Nonconformist minister, I fancy) to "Mrs. Kenrick, Offmore, near Kidderminster," dated May 22, 1804, in which the following passage occurs:—"Major Lee [of Redbrook] is with his regiment at N'twich. You must know we are all Soldiers in this part of the country. Our corps, with Col. Knight at its head, is at present at Oswestry, where they are to remain three weeks. We have six companies. Our captains are E. Payne, G. Corser, Sam'l Lowe, John Trevor, W. Gregory, & Jas. Bromfield, Esqs. Our Lieutenants are J. Edwards, currier, not Plummer, Naylor, Mingay, R. Corser, &c., Esqs." T. M.

OSWESTRY TOWN SEAL (Feb. 6, 1878).—The question has sometimes been asked "How old is the Oswestry Town Seal?" In looking through some Corporation papers the other day I found a memorandum containing the following note:—"The letters resemble those of the latter part of the 14th century, and the diaper work upon the field of the stamp would indicate the same period, as diaper was used to enrich the field of a shield in armorial bearings." The memorandum was in the handwriting of the late Mr. Richard Croxon, but I suspect the information was gleaned from Mr. Wynne of Peniarth, who, I know, is of opinion that the present seal is a copy of an older one. JARCO.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(August 6, 1879.)

MACCLESFIELD, DE ROBERT. This gentleman is mentioned in King's Vale Royal, as one of the sheriffs of Chester in the year 1297, and as having also filled the same office in 1299, 1303, and 1308. He hardly deserves notice in these records in that capacity, but he was *Custos Guild Mercator* in the first-named year, and is entitled therefore to a place among the notabilities of a commercial community. Ches'er in very early days ranked high as a centre of trade; this was probably due to its close proximity to the sea, and the assistance it derived from its noble tidal river the Dee. Adventurers naturally flocked there to conduct their somewhat risky trade with foreign parts, but before they were entitled to do so they had to compound with the *Guild Mercator*, and thus the Master of that co-fraternity acquired importance in the estimation of men. We may suppose that all the members of the guild were themselves free citizens, and that the Master being so, he was qualified to hold the office of sheriff, but if it be true, as implied, that he was a Macclesfield man, the question of his freedom as a citizen is

unsolved. Be that however as it may, he is fairly entitled to be held in remembrance for the position he occupied among the merchants of Chester—the pioneers so to speak of that immense trade which has subsequently established itself upon the river Mersey.

MACDONALD, GEORGE BROWNE, son of the late Rev. James Macdonald, was born at Stockport in the year 1805. To the counsels and example of his pious father he often referred with reverence, as being amongst the greatest blessings of his life. He was converted to God in early youth, and became a member of the Methodist Society while at Woodhouse Grove School. After being engaged for some time in tuition he entered the ministry receiving his first appointment at the Conference of 1825. His powers as a preacher were of a superior order. His services in the pulpit and on the platform being held in great request. He was held in great esteem by many outside his own religious communion, while by those who enjoyed the benefits of his labours as a preacher and visitor he was loved and honoured still more highly. At the Conference of 1863, in consequence of failing health, he was compelled to retire from circuit work. His closing years were spent in physical weakness. He died in great peace, at Bewdley, in 1868, in the sixty-fourth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his ministry.

MACHES (SAINT), daughter of Gundleus, and granddaughter to Glywys ab Tegid, great granddaughter to Brychan, and sister to "Cattwg the Wise." She is said to have been born in Monmouthshire, and to have suffered the death of a martyr at Llanvaches in the same county. "It was her practice to give alms to every poor person who sought it, and a pagan Saxon having approached her in the guise of a beggar, stabbed her in the breast with a dagger." That is how "Achauy Saint," Iolo Morganwg's Welsh MSS., the Rev. Rice Rees, and Mr. Williams in his Cambrian Biography tell the story in succession to each other, but not one of them say that her *martyrdom* was so brought about, although we may fairly imply that to be their meaning. In an old MS. it is stated that "she survived that cruel blow, living for some years afterwards in closer communion with God," and if this be true, and true too that she suffered martyrdom for her faith, it is clear that no printed authority has yet been given to us of the when, where, or how she died. The name given to the church already mentioned, "Saint Maches," is fair presumptive evidence in support of the sanctity of her life, and it is remarkable how the religious sentiment which had taken possession of her progenitors on both sides, obtained such a hold upon her own soul, as to induce her not only to live the life of faith, but to die for that faith in proof of the reality of her own conversion. She is supposed to have died about the time when Dubricius retired to Bardsey.

MAINWARING, SIR HENRY, born at Over Peover, Cheshire, in the year 1804, is a gentleman who deserves to be mentioned with respect. He was educated at Rugby and very early in life displayed the peculiar characteristics which distinguished him in after years as a country gentleman. He was a clever man, somewhat quaint, a true friend, just in all his dealings, and devoted to the interests of his country. A very enthusiastic agriculturist upon the old lines, he made sport of the new lights, and, often without any good warrant for doing so, attributed the hopes and troubles the modern farmer met with to the introduction of new fangled notions into the art of farming, but he did this in so genial and humorous a spirit that no one could be angry with him. He was an active and intelligent magistrate and presided over the Quarter Sessions for many years, and to him mainly is due the

introduction of that net-work of local railways throughout Cheshire which have helped to enrich the county, and to extend its trade. A magnificent testimonial was presented to him in 1875, through the hands of the Lord Lieutenant of the county and soon afterwards he died, regretted by all classes, for he had a good name of all men, and had secured the esteem and respect of both rich and poor.

MAINWARING, PHILIP, born at Baddiley, in Cheshire, had descended from a very ancient family, long resident in the Nantwich hundred of that county. He was learned above most of his fellows, much given to study, and accounted among the best informed men of his day in literature. It is he who left at his death in 1642 a library at Baddiley as an heir loom, expressing a wish that this collection might be added to from time to time, so as to form a good family library of choice and valuable books. According to a MS. notice of him, written by a member of his family, soon after his death, he "was greatly beloved by the rich and the poor, and had endeavoured to please God in life, in the assured hope that he might after this life inherit the great and precious promises given to the saints."

MAINWARING, PHILIP, a native of Cheshire, had espoused the cause of Henry Bolingbroke, and was an active supporter of it in the Border Counties. He is named as one of the Royal Commissioners who had been appointed to make inquiry into "the several persons and inhabitants of the Isle of Anglesey who had carried arms in the rebellion of Owen Glendower against the King," and Mr. Pennant states that upwards of two thousand persons were fined in 1406, several being outlawed, the goods of those slain in battle being forfeited to the king.

MAJOR, THOMAS, born at Cholmondeston, near Nantwich, Cheshire, in the year 1837. He was a young man of great promise, and in his seventeenth year began to preach among the Methodists. In 1860 the Conference accepted him as a candidate for the Ministry, and for seven years he laboured with acceptance and success in the home circuits and in North Britain. When on a visit to his father in June, 1867, he fell suddenly ill, and died. Great mourning was made for him, for he was cut off in the very midst of his manhood, all his well-laid plans of usefulness ended in one short hour, and the promise of a brilliant future came to a sudden and painful end. To him personally the change was a happy one, for he was prepared for the change, and his translation to the Church above was undoubtedly assured to him.

MALPAS, PHILIP, a Cheshire man, by birth, and who served as sheriff of London the 18th Henry the sixth, gave by his will £125 for relief of poor prisoners, and every year for five years 400 shirts and smocks, 40 pair of sheets, 150 Freez-Gowns to the poor; to 500 poor people in London, every one, 6s. 8d.; to poor maids on their marriage, 100 marks; to highways, 100 marks; 20 marks the year to a graduate to preach; £20 to the preachers at the Spittle on the 3 Easter Holy-days, &c. He was a most generous man in his life time, and especially so to poor natives of Cheshire, who, when in London, appealed to him for assistance, and he is spoken of in terms of high praise by some of the writers of his times.

MALVEYSIN, JOHN, born, it is supposed, near Atcham, in Shropshire, has left behind him a name ever to be remembered with honour. He was the last survivor of a race who had derived from a great Norman, and who for his services at Hastings had granted to him by King William the Lordship of Mawston. The old traditions of his family had all been of a war-like character, generation after generation of them had been trained to the use of arms, and they

were ever ready to answer the martial call. They had one after another fought and bled upon every battle-field in England. Henry the Fourth was king when Sir John Malveysin was born, party feeling ran high, and "the gentlemen of England" took different sides. In those days differences were settled by the sword, and that sword, unhappily was never idle. Sir John was out hunting near the Wrekin, when a dispute arose, swords were drawn, and he was slain—

Then fell the high-born Malveysin,
His limbs besmeared with gore;
No more his trusty bow shall twang,
His bugle blow no more.

His father had just been slain at Shrewsbury, and thus sire and son departed, and the old Norman house, once their home, was left desolate for ever.

MALVEYSIN, ROBERT, father of the last named, and a great chief, eminent among Salopian worthies, and remembered still for his gallantry and valour upon the field of battle. He adhered to Henry the Fourth and willingly answered his call for help when Henry Hotspur threatened to attack him. He marched from Ridware to meet the king at Shrewsbury, and arrived there just in time to die. It is of him we have read—

By yon old gateway, Redwari's knight,
Vaunts on his banded roan,
How graceful did his beaver sit,
How bright his armour shone.

The tradition is that he fought hand to hand with Hotspur, but that he fell a sacrifice to his gallantry, and was carried away by his retainers from Battlefield to Redware church for burial. The pilgrim who feels an interest in the story of his life must visit his grave, and for himself look upon the slab that covers his dust, for there he can best draw the moral conveyed to us by the lives, deaths, sufferings and joys of the great men of olden time.

MANLEY, RICHARD, son of John Manley, of Manley, in Cheshire, was born in that county, and appeared as counsel for the Abbot and Convent of Chester, who were plaintiffs in a suit in the year 1410. Mr. Thomas Hughes, a noted antiquary, states that he "was a lawyer of considerable reputation," and that he was knighted shortly after the year above mentioned, and it also appears that he filled the office of Escheator of Cheshire, a place of dignity and trust.

MAREDYDD, HENRY, is mentioned in an old document as having been born near Caus, in Shropshire, and afterwards served as a retainer of Lord Strange, of Knocking, when Madoc ap Llewelyn invaded the English borders. This must have happened long after the subjugation of Wales, and possibly about the time when Edward made a demand upon the Welsh "of a fifteenth of their movables towards crushing the French Monarch." We read how Madoc reduced Oswestry, defeated Lord Strange, near Knocking, advanced to Shrewsbury, but being routed on the way, he fell into the hands of the English, and was imprisoned in the Tower of London. The probability is that Maredydd, or Henry ap Maredydd, more likely, took part in this quarrel, for that is the only time recorded when Madoc did assail the English borders, and if we are to depend upon the old Welsh accounts, he was kept close prisoner from this period till 1331, when he died. They say he was buried at Gresford, where his tomb could once be seen with this inscription upon it: "Hic jacet Madoc ap Llewelyn ap Gruff. obiit 1331," but they don't condescend to tell us how his body came all the way from London for burial in that place. Maredydd was living in 1342 at, or near Ellesmere, for he is mentioned in two separate documents referring to that year in terms of commendation.

MARSDEN, JOHN, a Chester man, who was mayor of his native city in the year 1739 comes down to us as the noted defender of the rights and privileges of his office. In that year war against Spain was proclaimed, and bishop Peplow, for some unexplained reason, refused to admit the mayor to the Abbey-Court. The worthy magistrate could not brook this sort of ecclesiastical interference with the civil power, and forthwith ordered his officers to break down the Abbey gates, and then he marched into the Court, in support of his undoubted authority, and forthwith proclaimed the war upon the spot.

MARSH, JOHN B, born at Chester in 1835. He was educated at a Grammar School in that City, and when quite a youth began to dabble in literature, first in connection with the local press, and subsequently in the Metropolis. He commenced authorship in 1863, when he compiled that most useful and entertaining book entitled "Sayings From Shakespeare." This was followed in the next year by "The Book of Bible Prayers, &c."; "The Reference Shakespeare," and some other works. In 1865 he published "Robin Hood"; in 1871, "The story of Hare Court"; in 1873, "For Liberty's Sake"; and "Venice and the Venetians"; in 1874, "Dick Whittington"; and in 1877, "The Life of Dr. Thomas Goodwin." All his works evidence labour, care, and integrity of purpose, and give promise of greater things in time to come.

MASSEY, HARMON, born at Bowden in Cheshire, is mentioned by local historians with respect, as descended from a great family, and for his "Gift to God, the Blessed Virgin, St. James, and the prior of Birkenhead" of half an acre of land in Dunham, together with the advowson of Boden Church. This pious gift was made in 1278, and held in sacred trust by the priors of Birkenhead till 1541, when the great defender of the faith, Henry the eighth, dissolved that ancient foundation, and gave away to his new see of Chester, among other things, the Church of Boden. It is curious to mark how the sacred gifts of repentant sinners for God's service, under one form of religious faith, could be appropriated thus wantonly by another Church. The Civil power assumed to itself in Reformation times rights and privileges altogether unknown to our modern notions of justice, but in this assumed prerogative of the Crown, we find the principle of ecclesiastical supremacy so plainly set forth, that it is hard to divine how three centuries of enlightened legislation has never touched it. We may trust however, that what good Harmon gave so freely for his "soul's health" has not been entirely thrown away. This gentleman is sometimes called "the first Baron," but that probably is a mistake, because Collins accepts him as such.

MASSEY, WILLIAM, a native of Puddington in Cheshire, and the last of his ancient race in the male line, is noted for his great attachment to his faith as a Romanist, and for the undeviating support he gave to the Pretender in the early part of the last century. Some say that he joined Forster in Northumberland, and marched with him by way of Penrith to Preston, but whether he did so or not, it is certain that he was at Preston when that proud town was surrounded by the royal forces, and that he must have witnessed and taken part in the bloody conflict which ended so disastrously to the Stuart faction. He managed to escape, and rode across the country to a point on the river Mersey opposite to Hooton; boldly plunging his steed into the stream he swam across to the Cheshire side, and so escaped out of the hands of the enemy. He was soon afterwards taken however, and then died, so that the male line of his family must have ended about 1715, or 1716.

MASSIE, DE HAMON, sixth and last baron of Dunham Massie, in Cheshire, should be noticed both as a native of the county and the representative of a family who had been settled at Dunham long before the conquest. Hugh Lupus found them there when the Earldom of Chester was conferred upon him, and one of them was instituted into the dignified honour of a Baron of the Earl's Court, a position he was fairly entitled to hold seeing how vast were his possessions in the county, and how eminent the race from whence he sprang. The eldest daughter of Hamon Massie married John Fitton, of Bollen, and a descendant of that marriage married into the Venables family, of which house a daughter married Robert Booth, second son of John Booth, of Barton, and so carried the Cheshire estates of the Massies into the family of the Earls of Warrington and Stamford. Several of the Booths have been mentioned in these records, and they can be traced in succession to the gentleman at the head of this article, and through him to pre Norman times.

MASSIE, RICHARD, serving as sheriff of Chester in the year 1421, derived from one of the very oldest of Cheshire families. He occupied the same post in 1424-1425, and 1431, and the following year he was elected to the higher one of mayor. We hope to be pardoned for saying that notwithstanding his birth, he did honour to his name and family by becoming a merchant. He lost none of his credentials to respect in doing so, for in the good old days when England's glory was being carried to every part of the habitable globe by merchant adventurers, it was both fitting and wise that the adventurers themselves should be possessed of honourable qualities, and that they also cherished with reverence the names they bore. Some of the brightest names upon the page of our local commercial history could claim a genteel descent, they enriched themselves by their enterprise, and they conferred a great honour upon their country by their honesty. We are justly entitled to praise Mr. Massie in both respects. A grandson of his of the same name, who was sheriff in 1451, called himself *a merchant*, and in 1549 another of his descendants was sheriff, and he is called an "upholster," and in 1583 another of them, who filled the same office, was a draper. The "brotherhood of trade" under any name was a very honourable calling, and might be so now, if merchants and traders only studied how first to be gentlemen, and did not rush to claim that designation without possessing any of the elements necessary to make up the character. Mr. Massie was born near Chester.

MATTHEWS, JOHN, a Monmouthshire man, is mentioned as one of the very best schoolmasters of his day. A letter from one of his old scholars, dated 1741, dwells upon his eminence as a classical scholar, and "a great master in philosophy." There is a person of this name mentioned in the "History of the Welsh Baptists," who kept a school at Trevnant, and it is implied, though not stated in terms, that several young ministers of great promise living in Monmouthshire at that time, had been educated at that school, and it is possible therefore that this gentleman may have been at the head of an academy, where young students received their education for the ministry.

MAYBERY, WILLIAM VALENTINE, was born at Treveethian, Monmouthshire, in the year 1843. He died in 1876, so that his life was short, but in that brief life he did good service, first as an evangelist, then as the acting pastor of a small village church at Stoke-sub-Handon, and lastly as the minister of Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, where in 1873 he succeeded the Rev. Eliezer Jones, whose ability as a preacher was great. He had been educated

at the Western College, Plymouth, where he gained the Harris Scholarship. His style of preaching was thoughtful and earnest, his manners polished and refined, his zeal far too great for his weak constitution, and death came suddenly to release him from all his cares, trials, and work; but he was ripe for the change, and passed from earth to heaven assured of the reality of that great hope which had made him meet for the life beyond the grave.

MAYDES, ROBERT, is mentioned in an old Monmouthshire manuscript as a native of Monmouth, who, in very early times carried on the business of a "Capper" in that town. This trade, under that designation, has long ceased to exist, but it is evident that at one time it must have been well known, for in the old ballad of "King Arthur and the Shepherd," we read how the King went forth in disguise:—

A sword and buckler good and strong
To give Jack Lance a rap;
And on his head, instead of a crown,
He wore a Monmouth cap.

Mr. Maydes claimed to have brought in the trade of "a capper" to the county, but we think it had been established there before his time.

MAYDES, WILLIAM, son of the last named was, we may fairly assume, a native of Monmouth, seeing that his father had been himself born there, and had died there. He was a "mission priest," and had received his education "in a neighbouring monastery," from whence he appears to have gone abroad, and to have "served in his calling with all due diligence." In 1421, however, he "served his office" in Gloucestershire, and went about preaching from place to place. It would be curious to know how upon the eve of a great religious revolution in Germany, these early priests instructed the borderers, for it is remarkable that in Monmouthshire especially, their influence was very great with the people. Mr. Maydes died in 1437, and was buried at Gloucester.

MAYNWARING, SIR ARTHUR, born at Ightfield, Shropshire, had descended from the old Cheshire family, whose head, Ralph Maynwaring, had married a daughter of Hugh, fifth Earl of Chester. He had been brought up at Court, and in James the first's reign he figured there as a gallant and a favourite. His amours with the celebrated Mrs. Turner, who was hanged at Tyburn, for the wicked acts she had practised upon Sir Thomas Overbury, worked him mischief; but such was his fame as a courtier, that he passed through this ordeal, and survived Mrs. Turner's death without being ruined. It is not to his credit, however, nor to that of the Court, that such contempt for the amenities of life as he displayed should pass muster in England, but it is fair to say of him that he was a man of uncommon parts, shrewd, far seeing, and possessed of a ready wit, and in this way he certainly had made himself useful to his royal master, who cared not the least for honesty of purpose in his courtiers, if he could through them secure for himself profit and servile submission. Great a man as Sir Arthur was, he in no way added to the lustre or to the honour of the name he bore.

MEADMORE, JAMES, born at Blewhenstone, Herefordshire, in 1798. His conversion to religion is said to have been remarkable, and so early as 1815 (in his seventeenth year) he became a preacher. In 1824 he was ordained to the Methodist ministry, and for forty-five years he laboured as a circuit minister in divers parts of England, always with acceptance, and often with marked success. In 1869 we find his name upon the list of supernumeraries, and in that capacity again he was usefully employed, and was able to do much good. He died in 1874.

MEARE, JOHN, a native of Herefordshire, has been strangely overlooked by writers who have taken a pride in doing honour to the eminent natives of that county. He was a considerable scholar, a kind and generous man, and for some years Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford. It is recorded of him that he invited to his house the young "Herefordians" who were members of the University, among them John Phillips—author of "Cider"—who fell desperately in love with Dr. Meare's daughter Maria, but she treated him with disdain, and the poet had to content himself with pouring out his complaints in verse, thus rendered by Mr. Newcombe:—

Maria's form as I survey
Her smiles a thousand wounds impart,
Each feature steals my soul away,
Each glance deprives me of my heart,
And chasing thence each other fair,
Leaves its ene image only there.

We do not know how far Dr. Meare was conscious of the dangers his young friends ran from "the full, black, piercing eye" of his accomplished daughter, but we know that he dealt kindly by all of them, but to none of them was he so tender as to the "dear Herefordian lads."

METEYARD, ELIZA, was born in Shropshire in the year 1816, and in the course of time she became a writer of acknowledged fame. We suppose she had to struggle for a place in the race when the profits were to the few, and the toil to the many, and this may have suggested to her the title of her first work—"Struggles for fame." Under the well known signature of "Silverpen," she laboured in the vineyard, but in 1861, "The Hallowed Spots of Ancient London," and five years later, "The Life of Josiah Wedgwood" proved how thoroughly she had established herself in public esteem. Mr. Gladstone, when in office, granted her a small pension, and to the honour of Lord Beaconsfield, he readily increased it. Dean Stanley also befriended her, and thus we know how warmly "the brotherhood of letters" can both feel and act when called upon to do so. She died in 1879, but her name will live in her works, and many a loving heart in days to come will think kindly of the Salopian authoress, who strove with all her might to do service to humanity.

MIDDLETON, ROGER, founder of a very distinguished family of his name at Gwaenynog, in Denbighshire, was born at Chester, and was the eldest son of David Middleton, receiver of Denbigh (in the reign of Edward IV.), by Elyn, daughter of Sir John Done, of Uttkinton, Cheshire. There is a remarkable story related by Mr. Pennant, in relation to this couple. David Middleton had fallen in love with Elyn Done, but her father gave her away to Richard Done, his kinsman, and the marriage between them was duly solemnized, but Middleton, having had notice of this, watched the bridegroom emerging from the Church, "killed him on the spot, and then carried his mistress away, and married her the same day, so that she was maid, widow, and twice wife in one day." The reader must take this tale upon trust, but the fact of the second marriage is undoubted, and also that the Welsh family alluded to have descended from it.

MIDDLETON, WILLIAM, a Salopian by birth, matriculated at Queen's College, Cambridge, in 1567, and proceeded to his B.A. degree 1571, when he was also elected a fellow of his college. He had some difference with the president in 1574, and went to Oxford for his M.A., but the Cambridge people refused to acknowledge this, and after some trouble he became M.A. of his own university in 1576, and B.D. in 1590. He was for a time Master of Corpus Christi College, but failed to hold it for long, Dr. Jegen being reinstated by King James the First.

Mr. Middleton wrote several works, among them "Papesti Mastix," 1606, a curious book, showing when the Papal heresy first sprang, its growth, its declension, and predicting its final overthrow. What became of him afterwards is not known for certain, but a person of his name, and who was said to have been educated at Cambridge, died in London in 1616, and in some particulars his history resembled that of our worthy at the head of this notice.

MILBURGA (SAINT), daughter of King Merwald, and niece to Wolphen, King of Mercia, is claimed by Shropshire as a native of that county. She died in 666, and there surely can be nothing more than tradition to support such a claim, and the not less important one that she had founded and presided over the celebrated Abbey of Much Wenlock. When she died she was buried there, and Matthew of Westminster has made bold to tell us that her grave was discovered by accident long afterwards, and that many miracles were performed over it. The cruel Danes destroyed the monastery, but Leofric, Earl of Chester, restored it; and when in the course of time it had fallen into decay again, a great Earl of Shrewsbury took upon himself the cost of putting it into repair. The history of the foundation from its origin to its final destruction is a chapter full of interest, but we cannot dwell upon it further than to identify through it the relation of the good lady mentioned above with the many worthies who have dignified the page of Salopian local history.

MILES, EDMUND, a gentleman of repute, and owner of considerable property in Monmouthshire, of which county he was a native, is mentioned by Mr. Edward Jones as a firm believer in "Fairies." He is introduced to the reader as "a sober and wise gentleman," a man of few words, given to field sports, and the owner of hounds. One day in 1733 he had spent most of the day in pursuit of hares, and being weary was on the point of returning home, when up started a fresh hare, to which chase was given down to the cellar window of a public house at Llangatock. The keeper of this house was suspected to have resorted to the company of fairies, and Mr. Miles and his companions forthwith concluded that Boniface was none other than the hare which had thus tricked them to his house to spend their money. To our mind this suspicion should have led our "sober and wise gentleman" to an immediate departure from the spot, but strange to relate, it had just the reverse effect upon Mr. Miles, who, with his friends, determined to remain the night there. In the course of the evening one of the company left the room, but did not return, and this led to much alarm, and the unhappy landlord was held responsible for spiriting away their lost companion. The missing man did not return before the following morning, and then he came back in a most miserable plight. He had been carried away to Newport, became insensible, and was then brought back again by the same agency, through the air, to the place from whence he had gone the previous night. This cock and bull story is made the most of upon these grounds:—The Rev. Thomas Lewis was *present* when it happened; the unhappy man had been carried a distance of twenty miles in a few hours; and that was quite possible 'since the Devil is said in Scripture to have carried the Son of God thro' the air to the Pinnacle of the Temple.' What effect all this had upon Mr. Miles himself is not related, but if he believed it all, and honestly attested its truth to the narrator, good Edmund Jones, we must accept his testimony for what it was worth and dismiss him accordingly. That he was a man of repute and of learning is undeniable, and he was moreover a good man, an elegant writer, and a bard of great excellence, but in this one thing we cannot admit that his night's carouse at a

public house can add any value to the weight or importance of his character or of his testimony. He lived for many years after this event had happened, and from an independent source we gather that to his dying day he firmly believed that "Dick the Tailor" had passed into the skin of the hare in question.

MILES, JOHN, a native of Monmouthshire, and educated under the Rev. Vavasor Griffith, a celebrated schoolmaster in South Wales, gave early promise of great usefulness as a preacher. He had been converted under Howel Harris's ministry, and for a time he laboured among the Methodists as an itinerant. He was a profound scholar, especially in the Greek, and, being withal a truly religious man and a finished speaker, his friends wished him to go into the Church, but his own scruples upon some points of doctrine and ritual prevented his doing so. It is related of him that he admired Mr. Wesley until he heard him preach from the words, "And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." Mr. Wesley said that the words had been perverted in the Calvinistic translation, and should have been rendered "As many as were *disposed* to eternal life believed." Mr. Miles was so much struck with this rendering of the text, that he looked carefully into the Greek Testament, and finding that it was Mr. Wesley who had perverted the language to his own use he forthwith withdrew from all communion with him, and ever afterwards held fast by the Calvinists. He died young in years, but ripe in faith, and happy in the enjoyment of it.

MILLINGTON, JOHN, elder brother to the founder of Millington's Hospital, Shrewsbury, having been educated for the Church, proceeded in due time to his D.D. degree. He is deserving of special honour as the founder of four scholarships of sixty guineas each per annum, and a fellowship of one hundred and twenty guineas per annum, in connection with the Shrewsbury Free Grammar School. He took this useful way of attesting his love for his native county; but he is also known as the friend and correspondent of Newton and of Pepys, and some of his letters appear in the latter's celebrated and amusing "Diary." Dr. Millington was vicar of Kensington for some years, and was much respected by his wealthy and learned parishioners.

MINSHALL, RICHARD, son and heir of Thomas Minshall, was born at Nantwich, Cheshire, in the year 1581. "He lived wonderfully beloved, being of a most sweet, pleasant, affable, and generous nature, upright in his dealing, charitable to the poor, and a great lover and maker of peace." The line out of which he came died with him, for he left no child by his excellent wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Wilbraham. He departed this life in 1637, and his widow, to whom his good name was most dear, registered his deserving character upon a monument in the terms quoted above, adding:—

I wish so long a peace unto thy urn,
As till in harbour such another guest,
If so until the world to ashes turn,
Thy ashes will unreck'd belike to rest.

In a somewhat ancient letter, Mr. Minshall is referred to as "one of the stoutest supporters of the reformed religion, and in his life of faith he proved how sounde an anchore for the soule he had founde in the blessed hope of immortal life through the merits of the one Savioure in whom he had believed."

MITTON, THOMAS, whose kinsman of the same name was afterwards member of Parliament for Shrewsbury in 1472, must not be passed over in a history of Salopian Worthies, for he was successor in lineal descent to William de Mutton, who is named in the

Tallage Roll of Shrewsbury in 1313, and who filled the office of sheriff to his native county. He acquired an historic name, as the bold gentleman who arrested near Shrewsbury Henry de Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, for a rebel and traitor to the King. From his sons William, Adam, and Allan sprang a race of Mittons, Muttons, Myttons, of which the Border Counties and South Wales may be proud, for both in Church and in the State, some of his descendants have done honour to their name, and service to their country, which cannot possibly be over-rated.

MONMOUTH, HUMFREY, a native of Monmouth, and at one time an Alderman of London, is strangely overlooked by all local historians. He was a Reformer in religion, the friend and companion of William Tyndale; the ready helper of all Godly ministers who loved "the true faith," and who at his death left some money "to Godly ministers who were to preach the reformed doctrines." It is always said that Tyndale himself was a Welsh borderer, probably a native of Gloucestershire; this may account for the "companionship" of the two men; the main bond of union between them, however, should be looked for in the common faith they clung to, their regard for the scriptures, and their fixed resolve that the Bible should be read by all. Mr. Monmouth is very worthy therefore of honourable mention among the best, and best deserving, of his countrymen, for he was an Israelite indeed, and free from all guile.

MONNINGTON, RICHARD, a native of Monnington, in Herefordshire, and living there at the close of the fourteenth century, is mentioned among the leading men of that county who entertained very strong opinions against Henry the Fourth. He looked upon that monarch as a wanton usurper of the Royal authority and the murderer of the unhappy Richard, who, whatever his faults might have been, was at least the rightful heir to the crown of England, and deserving therefore of loyal support. It is supposed that he identified himself with the cause of Owen Glendower, for, according to the historic records of the time, Glendower gave his youngest daughter to him in marriage, and Mr. Pennant states that their descendants continued to dwell at Monnington down to his own day.

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Athenæum* says:—Mr. Edward Edwards, of Menai, Anglesea, the enthusiastic student of marine animals in their native element, and the contriver of the dark chamber tank for keeping marine animals alive and in health in confinement, has died at the age of seventy-five.

OSWESTRY AND WELSHPOOL NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB, 1879.—The 4th excursion took place on Thursday, Sept. 4. The day was fortunately fine. The members and friends met at Whitechurch, and walked first to Pan Castle, a flat-topped mound of some size and nearly square, with a moat round it. It was probably a fortified place of considerable strength. The country on one side being low and marshy, may have formerly been under water, or could possibly be submerged; while on the other side, where the ground is higher, there is a deep ditch cut, at a little distance from the mound, probably used as a hiding place for the defending garrison. From Pan Castle the route lay by Iscoed Park and Wolvesacre Hall (where there is a portion of an old moat), and then along the Wiches Brook, which divides Flintshire from Cheshire, past one of the Salt Springs. It is a round pit, two or three yards across, and close to the brook side, into which the overflow runs. The water of the spring is very salty

indeed, and the edge is white in places with a thin incrustation of salt. It is not used now. The party then left the Wiches Valley and proceeded along a Roman road to Malpas, said to have received its name in ancient times from its bad roads. There they did justice to an excellent tea at the Wyvern Hotel; and then visited the church, which one of the rectors, the Rev. Hon. T. Kenyon, kindly showed them over. It is a handsome perpendicular structure, much needing restoration, with some very fine, and beautifully preserved monuments, with recumbent figures in alabaster, in each of the chancel aisles. There were present—Mr. J. R. Barnes, the Revs. M. H. Lee, R. W. Foulger, and O. M. Feilden, and Messrs. M. S. Forster, Biden, H. Barnes, T. Forster, &c. The chief botanical finds were *Parnassia Palustris* (grass of Parnassus), and *Mimulus* (Lutens, growing in a bog between Whitechurch and Malpas. A resolution was passed of congratulation to the President of the Society, the Bishop of Bedford, on his advancement to the Episcopal dignity, with deep regret at his retirement from the presidency.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The third annual excursion of this Society took place on Monday, the route being from Shrewsbury to Berrington, Pitchford, Acton Burnell, and Condover. The first halt, at Berrington, was for the purpose of inspecting the church, which has recently gone through the process known as "Restoration." The chief features here were an effigy, in wood, and some tomb-stones in the floor in memory of the Pontesburys and Owens, once great names in the parish. At the next halt, Pitchford, there was much of interest to arrest the attention of the excursionists. First the hall, a fine specimen of the half-timbered mansion, erected probably early in the 16th century. It is supposed to have been built by William Otley, Sheriff of Salop, in 1499 and 1513. The rooms were thrown open for the visitors, and all admired a painting in the drawing-room, of Sir Francis Otley (governor of Shrewsbury under Charles I.), with his wife and two children. None the less were the visitors interested in another, and quite a different "attraction," viz., the famous well, on the surface of which floats pitch, and which is popularly supposed to have supplied the bottles one Mr. Beeton in time gone by sold (and made a fortune with) as "British Oil." The celebrated Lime Tree, which more than rivals the chestnuts at Seaux—in which the more inquisitive of Englishmen when they visit Paris climb for breakfast—obtained only a very cursory notice, and that only from a few of the excursionists; although a "Tree with a House in it" is not to be seen every day; but the church, of course—as befitted a learned society—attracted everyone; and the very remarkable figure of a crusader carved in wood, and supposed to be some 600 years old, was a specimen of British oak not often to be met with. An engraving of this monument is to be found in Mr. Eyton's book, and Mr. Anderson, in commenting on it, remarks that "tradition says the figure represents Sir Hugh de Pitchford, yet heraldry points rather to Sir John de Pitchford, who died in 1285." From Pitchford a drive of three miles took the party to Acton Burnell, where the Castle, gardens, and Church, filled up the time of some; others mounted the rising ground for the sake of enjoying an unsurpassed Salopian prospect, whilst others, more eager, marched to Langley to inspect the ruined Chapel. The ruins of Acton Burnell Castle (and the historical interest attaching to a place so famous as to have been the scene of a parliament, and to have passed a Statute called after the locality), were enough to detain one portion of the party a considerable time, and the font

and monuments in the Church proved equally attractive to others. The last place visited was Condoover Hall and Church; the former (Elizabethan) with its old-fashioned gardens looking very pleasant in the sunshine; and the latter being, perhaps, of ecclesiastical architecture, the most interesting exhibition of the day. Here the unusual feature of one transept Norman and the other Perpendicular, was duly noted, also the fine monuments, notably that by Roubiliac. From this interesting spot a rapid drive was made to Shrewsbury, where dinner for the party was provided at the Lion. Hearty thanks are due to Mr. Adnitt for his trouble in making arrangements so successfully for the day's pleasure, and the members present cannot be too thankful to our American Cousins for not sending a storm over. The attendance was numerous, and included The Rev. W. A. Leighton, F.L.S. (who led the party); the Rev. T. and Mrs. Auden, Ford; Rev. C. H. Drinkwater, Shrewsbury; Dr. and Mrs. Saxton, Rev. Holland Sandford, Major and Mrs. Barnes, Brookside; Mr. and Mrs. Morris C. Jones, F.S.A., Gungrog; Mr. Paterson Jones and Miss Jones; Rev. O. M. Feilden, Frankton; Mr. Henry Davies, Mr. Askew Roberts, Mr. J. Sides Davies, and Mr. Spaul, of Oswestry; Rev. C. Brooke, Houghton Hall; Rev. Loftus and Mrs. Owen, Rev. A. T. Pelham, Mr. Southam, Shrewsbury; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Taylor, Mr. J. H. Spence, Mr. and Mrs. Jebb, Mr. Adnitt, hon. sec., Mr. D. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. S. Edwards, Lewisham; Mr. Caswell, Mr. P. Evans, Mr. Robinson, Frankton Grange; Mr. Rider, Wellington; Mr. T. M. Owen, Mr. Whitaker, Mr. W. Hughes, Mr. Randall, Mr. J. P. White, &c., &c.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1879.

NOTES.

LAND SLIP NEAR NEWTOWN.—The *Gents. Mag.* for Jan., 1815, gives the particulars of a catastrophe in Montgomeryshire on Dec. 17, 1814, that might have been very serious to a poor family. The record says:—"At Moughtre, near Newtown, by the sudden slipping of a quantity of earth, loosened by heavy rains, the walls of a poor man's cottage, built under a steep bank, were beaten in, and himself, wife, and five small children overwhelmed by a torrent of sand." The woman was forced on the fire; the husband was driven outside and there fixed in the ruin. They were all helpless, and it was not until two hours had passed that they were released; the woman was badly burnt, and two of the children died from suffocation. BLACKPOOL.

FATAL DUEL AT WHITCHURCH.—Under this heading a note appeared in *Bye-gones*, Aug. 25, 1875, which narrated, in less than half-a-dozen lines, how one Manning, a surgeon, had shot his guardian, Captain Jones, in a duel, on the 22nd Oct. 1799. Our county newspapers were truly brief chronicles of the times in those days, for although the surgeon was tried for the offence at our county town at the following assizes, all the report of the proceedings (in the *Salopian Journal*, Apr. 2, 1800) is the following:—

At our Assizes which ended on Wednesday night last . . . R. P. Manning for the manslaughter of Capt. Jones, fined 6s. 8d., and imprisoned six months.

As our readers were informed (on the authority, we may say, of a grandson of the gentleman who was shot), Manning was eventually sent to a lunatic asylum, and only died at a comparatively recent period. Referring to this subject "J.E." in *Salopian Shreds and Patches* (Apr. 30,

1879), gives the following evidence adduced at the inquest, held Oct. 28, 1799:—

Thomas Cross, of Whitchurch, in the county of Salop, hostler to Mr. Peter Newton, of Whitchurch, in the county of Salop, innkeeper, upon oath saith that he knew the said Thomas Jones, Esq., the deceased, who he understands came from Wrexham, and also knew Mr. Manning, of Whitchurch aforesaid, doctor, and also Mr. William Hill Watson, of the top of Bark-hill, an attorney. This deponent saw the said Thomas Jones in the White Lion kitchen on Monday last, it may be about nine o'clock in the evening, and who desired this deponent to call him up at five o'clock in the morning; did not see him any more that night. At about a quarter before six o'clock the next morning this deponent went to the bedroom door to call up the said Thomas Jones, and hit it with his hand, and Jones spoke and asked this examinant what o'clock it was, who said it was between five and six, and asked him if he chused a light, who said no. The examinant immediately went down stairs. In about five or ten minutes he saw Mr. Jones, who came with Edward Lewis to the brewhouse of the White Lion, and Edward Lewis said to the examinant, "go along with this gentleman a little way" (meaning Mr. Jones.) This examinant went with Mr. Jones up the High-street, and when about Mr. Hassall's the grocer, Mr. Jones put his hand in his pocket and gave this examinant a shilling; and said, "Here is a shilling for you to go with me a little way." Then went together until we came to Pepper Alley, and as we went along there Mr. Jones said to this examinant, "If anything happens to me there's a letter in the room where I slept," and desired me to send it to Ellesmere to his son as soon as I could. Then went on till we came into Newtown, and Mr. Jones said "If I fall send the letter as soon as you can." Then went together until we came down Sherra Mill Hill, and went half-way down, turned up a narrow road which leads into Mr. Lovell's field, in the holding of Mr. Arthur Roe, called the Green field, and as we passed along Mr. Jones asked if that was not the road to Mr. Trevor's garden under Mr. Welds. I told him I thought it was, and going along the field called Mr. Lovell's field, and when about half-way across, Mr. Jones pointed towards the Red Brook road and asked whether there was anybody there. I told him not, and then he went along, and at some distance from the stile leading out of Mr. Lovell's field into the Green field I saw Mr. Watson and Manning standing in the Green field at or about the bottom of the footpath leading into the Chester Lane. Then Mr. Jones desired me to go and stand at the top of that bank (pointing to the bank in Mr. Lovell's field), and said if anything happens to him I must send the letter as soon as possible. Mr. Jones went into the Green Field, stopped at a distance from Mr. Manning and Mr. Watson, and said to Mr. Watson and Mr. Manning, "You have the advantage of me; this place where I stand is very dirty." Then walked up to them. A conversation then passed between Mr. Jones and Mr. Manning and Mr. Watson, and to the best of my knowledge Mr. Jones mentioned something about a will, and one of them—but which I do not know—said, "I have it," but I was at a distance and could not hear distinctly. I saw when in the Newtown two large pistols, one in each of Mr. Jones's coat pockets. After the conversation about the will had passed, and which conversation in the whole lasted five or eight minutes, or more—I cannot tell particularly how long—Mr. Jones gave Mr. Manning one of the pistols, who examined it, I believe; but they stood with their backs towards me, and I could not see very plain. I heard nothing said about pistols by either party. Mr. Jones then walked to the nearest place, and Mr. Manning walked a distance from him—about sixteen yards—and stood on their side, but rather more fronting than sideways, opposite to one another. I understood Mr. Manning say, "fire." They both then put up their pistols and fired immediately both together, and as soon as I heard the report Mr. Jones fell. Mr. Manning then ran towards him to lift him up, and he lifted him up. I ran to him as soon as I could, and Mr. Manning and Mr. Watson were examining where the ball went. I was about sixty yards off when they fired. Mr. Watson stood on the other side of Mr. Jones and Mr. Manning from where I stood, but I do not exactly recollect the spot. Mr. Manning endeavoured to pull the blood out of Mr. Jones's mouth, who was then bleeding very much. Mr. Manning desired Mr. Watson to fetch somebody to him—I understood Mr. Brooks or Mr. Meakin. Mr. Watson then immediately ran up the Green Fields. I saw the pistols and the hammers both up. Mr. Manning and I took hold of Mr. Jones by each arm to lead him back to the town, and when gone a little way met Robert Blagg on the Green Field near the

stle going to Mr. Lovell's Field, and Mr. Manning asked Mr. Blagg to help me along with Mr. Jones, and gave Blagg a handkerchief to put to Mr. Jones's mouth; but Mr. Jones took his own out of his pocket and held it to his mouth, then Mr. Manning went away behind us, I did not look back to see which way he went, but went along the middle of Mr. Lovell's field when I saw Thomas Calcutt in the Green Field and called him to fetch a chair, then I and Blagg led Mr. Jones on till we came to the Sherra Mill the same road we went, where Thomas Calcutt brought a chair and Mr. Jones sat down in it. I then asked him where we should take him to, and as well as I could understand him he said Jones's. Then Blagg, Calcutt, and myself carried him to Mr. Jones's house in Whitechurch, they put the chair down within the shop door next the Red Lion, he got out of the chair himself and walked upstairs, and Joseph Wall followed him to assist him. I believe Mr. Jones dropped in consequence of Mr. Manning's fire, and also saith when Mr. Jones fell and the witness came up Mr. Watson went for a surgeon, and after he was gone Mr. Manning said, "It is sad work."

(Signed) The mark X of Thomas Cross.

"J.E." also adds:—"The document from which the enclosed evidence is copied, is endorsed as follows:—"Oct., 1799. Inquisition and exam'n's of Witnesses in the affair of the Duel between Richd. Pole Manning, surgn., and Capt. Thos. Jones, in which Manning killed Jones, and for s'ch offence R. P. M. was tried and convicted at Shrewsbury Assizes, and sentenced to— he after'd became a Lunatic, and died in a Lunatic Asylum at L'pool, and was buried on the 7th January, 1850."

ED.

QUERIES.

COELBREN Y BEIRDD.—The want of a popular Encyclopedia for Wales, on the plan of that of Chambers of Edinburgh, has once or twice been mentioned in *Bye-gones*. Had we such a work I should have had no need to ask to be enlightened on the subject of "Coelbren y Beirdd," which as far as I understand, is an ancient form of Welsh character. Will some contributor kindly give your readers information on the subject? NEMO.

CLAWDD LLESG.—At the recent Cambrian Archaeological meeting at Welshpool both the President (C. W. W. Wynn, Esq., M.P.), and the Rev. D. R. Thomas suggested that this place was named after *Eliseig*. Now although Prof. Rhys gives some curious instances of *l* passing by provection into *ll* in Welsh words, it is very rarely the case. There is also absolute proof that the Welsh had the sound we write *ll* as early as the ninth century. I should therefore be glad if one of the gentlemen above named would give their reasons for supposing that *Clawdd Llesg*, which has hitherto been supposed to have been so named ("the dyke of the feeble"), from the resort of the halt, and the lame to the healing spring in its immediate neighbourhood really took its name from *Eliseig*. As a rule Welsh mutations are from hard to soft, such as from *ll* to *l*, not the contrary. Besides which there would have to be in this case the transposition of the vowel *e* from after to before the *s*—a very improbable thing, to say the least. R. W.

DOVASTON'S WALNUT TREE.—I have, what I prize very much, a copy of the Poems published by Mr. Dovaston of West-felton, in 1825. Amongst others there is one entitled "An Irregular Ode to Shakspeare's Birthday," and written on the occasion of the author, with a few literary friends, planting in his grounds a walnut tree—"with a wine-bottle under the root, having an appropriate inscription cut thereon with a diamond"—on the poet's birthday in 1810. The ode is inscribed to "John Clavering Wood, Esq." Who was Mr. Wood? Who were their literary friends? What was the inscription on

the bottle? Is the tree yet flourishing? These are questions many more admirers of Mr. Dovaston would like to see answered besides A SALOPIAN.

REPLIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Apr. 9, 1879).—*Mrs. Hennings*. Died on May 10, 1805, "at Oswestry, in the 82nd year of her age, highly respected, Mrs. Hennings, sister to the late Henry Wynne, Esq., of Dolerthyn (sic) Montgomeryshire."—*Salopian Journal*, May 15, 1805. JARCO.

OLD COACHING DAYS (Aug. 27, 1879).—The following extract (published in Oct. 1805), tho' not about coaches, bears upon the travelling customs of the times in question. "A man and woman are travelling the country in hired gigs, which they sell at convenient distances to strangers, under the pretext that they have no further occasion for them." A person passing through Chester, on his way to Gloucester, driving a gig he had thus purchased, was, to his surprise, confronted with the owner. It was said that a similar fraud had recently been practised at Birmingham. A journey "through Chester to Gloucester" in a gig would be an event now-a-days; but in the "Old Coaching Days" perhaps as cheap a way as any other. In connection with the subject of transit, let me also note the "Flying Waggon" that were advertised at the same period. "Rowland Hearne and Co., of Gloucester," established these for the purpose of competing with the Severn Barge traffic, in conveyance of "Cheshire Cheese and other Goods." G. G.

On the King's Birthday, May 27, 1833, the mail and other coaches in Shrewsbury, ten in number, connected with the Lion Inn, went in procession along the streets of the town gaily decorated. In July 1833 Isaac Taylor and Co., of the Lion Coach Establishment, Shrewsbury, announced that in future The Wonder Coach would do the journey between London and Shrewsbury daily in sixteen hours; the speed being accelerated half-an-hour. This seems to have roused the energies of Jobson and Co. of the Talbot, who put on a coach called The Nimrod to do the journey in the same time and at reduced fares. The Lion people, not to be beaten, reduced their fares. JEHU.

EVANS THE CONJUROR (Apr. 21, May 26, 1875).—The current no. of *Arch: Camb:* (July, 1879, p. 233) contains a letter in which some account is given of this notorious individual. The writer says "He was ordinarily known as *Arise Evans*, apparently a Puritanical affix, assumed, perhaps, as a cloak for his vicious conduct, or to support his character as a Welsh prophet." Neither Anthony Wood nor Canon Williams in their notices mention the prefix "Arise" to Evans's name, and the writer in *Arch: Camb:* quotes Elias Ashmole as his authority for stating that he was so called. H. B.

BAD TIMES IN 1820.—"In consequence of the depression which has recently taken place in the iron trade in Staffordshire, the masters have been obliged to dismiss a considerable number of hands." This was in April. In June we are told that "Sir Thomas Mostyn, of Mostyn, has, with a liberality truly noble, made a reduction of rents to his tenants of 25 per cent. and a promise of further reduction, should the severity of the times require it." In the same month, in consequence of the reduction of wages, there was rioting amongst the miners of the Wellington (Salop) district.

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION.THE SYSTEM OF PLACE NAMES IN WALES
COMPARED WITH THAT OF ENGLAND.

During the late meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association at Welsphool, Mr. J. A. Picton, of Liverpool, read an interesting paper upon this subject. After some prefatory remarks Mr. Picton said—We shall see that with some amount of resemblance there is much diversity, and that this diversity throws considerable light on the condition of the respective people at the time these names were imposed. Of course we all know that the greater part of the place names in England are Teutonic, of the Low German or Saxon stock, and that nomenclature in Wales is Celtic of the Cambrian stock, but the principle on which these names were applied is not so obvious. There are various names which are merely Latinised forms of appellations in a previous language before the Roman Conquest. London can be traced back to Roman Londinium, which is simply the Cymric *Llyn-din*, the fort on the pool, with a Latin termination. York, Exeter, Wroxeter, Brancaster, and other towns take their names from similar combinations. Proceeding on the same line we further find that many of the natural features of the country are called by names of purely Cymric origin. The Esk, the Axe, the Avon, the Dee, the Don, the Douglas, the Yarrow, &c., retain the names conferred long before the Saxon or even the Roman invasion. The mountains of the North of England, Helvellyn, Blencathra, Pen-y-gant, Wernside, &c., also retain their Cymric appellations. From this we gather that previous to the arrival of the Saxons or of the Romans there are clear evidences apart from written history that the country was peopled by a Celtic race, who have left behind few traces but the names apparently indelible which they gave to the great features of nature. It is far from improbable that concealed by their Saxon suffixes there may still exist in the names of places in England many relics of Cymric nomenclature hitherto undiscovered or unnoticed. This is a subject well worthy of further inquiry. We have thus existing in England, independent of all written records, clear indications of the successive waves of population which overspread the country and left their indelible marks behind. We have a tableau of history before our eyes inscribed on the face of the country itself in characters which cannot be mistaken. If we now turn to the Principality of Wales, we shall find a very different state of things. Whether the Cymry are the *autothones*, the aboriginal inhabitants, I will not take upon myself to affirm. There is a theory that they were preceded by a Gaelic race, who were gradually driven westward, and either exterminated or forced to cross the channel to Ireland. Professor Rhys in his excellent work on Welsh Philology alludes to this theory, but holds it to be untenable. It may be so, but there are traditions which point in that direction, and which it is difficult to account for in any other way. The circular bases of huts sunk in the ground, which are found in such numbers on many points of the coast of North Wales, bear the traditional name of *cyttiau* Gwyddelod, usually interpreted the huts of the Irishmen. It may not have anything to do with Irishmen properly so called, *Gwyddel* being probably a derivative from *gwydd*, a wood. It is therefore the synonym for the English "*savage*," mediæval *selvage* from *silva*, a wood. This certainly seems to imply that there had been a race of men in a lower state of civilization preceding the Cymry who conquered, and probably exterminated them; and that we have in these *cyttiau*, the remains of their

last strongholds. Be this as it may, these mythical aborigines have left so far as we know no impress on the nomenclature. Whether any of the Cromlechs, Maenhirs, stone circles, and camps are of a period preceding the advent of the Cymry is a question not now coming within my purview. The vast majority of the place names in Wales are then pure Cymric and so far as we can perceive they have not been intruded into any previous name system. They are formed in a manner entirely different from the English, and give no indications of a conquering race. The prominent physical features of the land—the mountains and rivers—would be the first named. For the former we find a variety of appellations arising from their respective magnitude, form, colour, relative position, natural productions, and other circumstances; Mynydd, Breidden, Moel, Glyder, Faen, Bryn, Cefn, Craig, Aran. The highest mountain takes its name from its highest peak, Craig Eryri, the Eagle's Rock. Other craigs are named from their peculiarities: Craig Goch, the red rock; Craig Durg, the conspicuous rock; Craig y Fodwen, the long sharp rock; &c. The two next are named from the cairns or tumuli on their summits; Carnedd Llewelyn and Carnedd Dafydd. Next in order come the Glyders. Glwyd or Glowgy, signifies bright or clear, akin to the English glow. The Glyders, then, are the conspicuous summits, or the bright mountains, which exactly answers to their character. Faen, or Fain, signifies a sharp pointed cone, illustrated in the well-known Tre-faen, the triple peaks which predominate over Nant Francon. Moel, or Foel, a bare rounded summit, is very common, as Moel Eithiar, the heath mountain; Moel Hebog, the hawk mountain; Moel Famma, the mother mountain; Foel Goch, the red mountain; Foel Llwyd, the grey mountain. Mynydd, from *Mwn*, to ascend, means an eminence pure or simple, Mynydd Mawr, the great hill; Mynydd Rhiw, the mountain slope. The Breiddens are the cloud dispersers. Cefn, a ridge, is in very common use, Cefn Coch, red ridge; Cefn Llechan, flat ridge; Cefn Maen Namor, the ridge of the great stone. Bryn, a hill of less eminence, is found in great profusion, Bryn-y-Dinas, the castle hill; Bryn Gosol, the hill of the watch tower; Bryn Tirion, the pleasant hill. Pen, which is so frequently found in place names, does not originally signify an eminence; it primarily applies to the extremity or termination of anything, but, like Ben in Gaelic, it is frequently attached to mountain summits. In the primary meaning we find it in Pen-y-bont, the bridge end; Pen-y-fordd, the end of the ford; Pen-y-gwent, the end of the meadow, or plain. In connection with summits, we have it in Pen-y-Gaer, Pen-y-Dinas, Pen-y-Castell, fortified eminences; Pen Maen Mawr, and Pen Maen Bach, the great and little termination of the rocks. These are the principal mountain names, though there are other epithets occasionally used, such as Tal-y-fan, the end of the slope; Cader, or Gader, a seat or chair, as Cader-Idris, Pen-y-Gader. Aran is not very common, but is found in several places applied to a high mountain. It is common also to the Gaelic, and is found in Scotland and Ireland. The passes and valleys have distinctive names. Bwlch from *bwl*, equivalent to Eng. bowl, is very frequently met with in the sense of a hollow or defile. Nant has a very wide range in the sense of a valley usually fertile, and gives the name to a great number of places. Nant Francon, the beaver's vale; Nant Llwynog, the fox's valley; Nant Gwrach, the vale of the reeds; Sychnant, the dry valley; Nant Gwynant, the fair vale; Glan, Eng. glen, is applied to the banks of a river flowing through a valley, as Glan-afon, Glan Usk. Cwm, Eng. Combe, is the name for the large hollows scooped out of the mountain sides, as Cwm

Coch, red combe; Cwm Bychan, little combe. This word is very common in place names in Devonshire and Cornwall, derived from the ancient Cornish language. Dwygyfychi, a charming little vale near Penmaenmawr, signifies the meeting of the two clefts or passes. The nomenclature of the mountainous districts which I have just described is almost entirely wanting in England, owing to the different conformation of the surface. What little there is has been principally derived from the Cymric. The quieter features of nature supply a large fund of place names in Wales: Dol, a river meadow, is frequent, as "Dolwyddelan," the wooded meadow, "Dolgelley," the hazel meadow. Gwern or Wern an irrigated meadow. Wern-go-uchaf, the upper little meadow, "Wern-go-isaf," the lower one; Gwern-go-cogwrn, the little crabtree meadow. The river names in Wales are extremely interesting from the links they supply to connect the place names over the greater part of Europe. Many of these names are found not only in England, but in France, Germany, Italy, and Spain, where their signification has been entirely lost. It is only in those countries where the Celtic dialects are spoken that their true origin can be traced. Avon, as the name of a river, has a very wide range. In Wales, England, Scotland, and Ireland it is found attached to numerous streams. In France we find it, though somewhat corrupted, in the Aupon, the Cal-avon, and others. In Portugal there is the Avia, and in Spain the Avono. In Italy the Aven-za, the S-avone, the Aufen-te. It is held that Latin Amn-is is a corruption or contraction of Avon, and that all these are connected with Sanskrit Ab or Ap, by the usual interchange of b and v. The same will apply to most of the other river names on which time and space will not allow me now to dilate. Wy is found in a variety of combinations, sometimes in its simple form, as in the rivers Wye, Conwy the spreading water, Llugwy the sparkling water, Dw-y or Dee the dark water. Wysg is another river name very widely diffused in its various forms of Usk, Esk, Exe, Axe, &c. Perhaps it has been brought into the most prominence by its modern derivative, Whiskey, which is simply the original Wysg with the epithet bagh or bach, which is a term of endearment indicative of its exciting properties. Dwr is another river name widely spread, of which Dr. Pritchard gives forty-four ancient river names in Europe containing this root, amongst which are the Derwent, the Douro, the Adour, the Dart, the Durance, the Durbach, &c. In fact, all the river names of Wales will be found in some part of Europe, indicating clearly the solidarity of language over a wide extent. The Celtic languages have retreated from their ancient habitat; but like the ancient glaciers of the Welsh valleys they have left behind, strewn over the surface, indelible indications of their former existence. Coed, a wood, is of frequent occurrence, as Bettws-y-Coed, the station in the wood. Tyn-y-Coed, the house in the wood. Coed Talon, the wood on the hillock. Bancor-ys-Coed, the lofty choir in the wood. The number of place names containing this word indicate the great prevalence of timber in ancient times. Rhos, a marsh, is found in many names. Eglwys Rhos, the church in the marsh; as also Morfa, a salt marsh. Morfa Rhianedd, signifies the Lady's Marsh by the sea. Llyn, a lake, is, of course, widely diffused; as also Pwll, a pool; Pistyll, a spout; and Rhaiadr, a waterfall. The operations of human industry furnish a large nomenclature, though there is by no means the variety in this respect which prevails in the English names. Garth, an enclosure, to which Eng. Gard-en is allied, is common, Ty or Tyn, a house, is exceedingly numerous, qualified by various adjectives. Ty-newydd,

new house; Ty-bach, little house; Hafod Ty, dairy or farmhouse, &c. Bôd, a dwelling, as Bodlondeb, cheerful abode. Tre, a hamlet, common in Wales, but much more so in Cornwall; Hentre, the old hamlet; Hafod-tre, is the rural hamlet. The name Powys applied to the district about Welshpool, implies a settlement after a period of disturbance. "Po-gwys" combines the two ideas of habitation and restraint. There is one word so prominent in Welsh place-names as to take precedence of all the rest. I mean the prefix Llan, which opens up a very wide inquiry, much wider than I can now go into. The word originally signified an enclosed area, probably a clearing, and it is still found in compound words with much the same meaning as "Cor-lan," a sheep fold; "Corf-lan," &c., a burial ground; but, as a prefix, it is exclusively used in connection with a Christian place of worship in the same manner as "Cil" or "Kil" in Gaelic. In the Clergy List there are 451 places quoted with the prefix "Llan," each having a church. It is found in Cornwall, and the part of England formerly called Western Wales, at least from 20 to 30 times, sparsely in other parts of England; in the ancient kingdom of Strathclyde in Scotland, and very frequently in Brittany. The question is, how came it to be applied exclusively to Christian worship? There are some who maintain that the "Llans" were originally areas set apart for heathen rites, and afterwards converted into churches, but we have no evidence to this effect. It is somewhat singular that, whilst in England many of the place names contain reminiscences of the Saxon worship of Woden, Thor and Setor, there is nothing whatever in the Cymric names to call up associations with pre-Christian times. Whatever may be the cause, the "Llans" are now exclusively connected with the names of Welsh saints, of whom Professor Rice Rees enumerates no fewer than 479. The same ecclesiastical propensity existed in Cornwall, where either with the prefix of *Llan* or *Saint* the ancient church worthies are commemorated. In England these are comparatively few, and I believe nearly all are of mediæval origin. The Saxon saints gave their names to numerous churches, but the places were not called by their names. It has been sometimes asserted that the names of places in mountainous countries are more poetical and imaginative than those of the plains. After some examination of the subject I cannot coincide in this view. The Cymric names are quite as matter of fact as the English ones and display even a less exercise of the imagination. There is one name connected with a pretty legend which it would be a pity to destroy, and which connects by a long course of tradition the Cymric people with the old Aryans of India. I mean of course, "Bedd-gelert," the grave of Llewelyn's faithful hound. It has been maintained that Beddgelert commemorates the grave of a Welsh saint of the fifth century, Celert, to whom the Church of Llangeler is dedicated. It may be so, though why this particular saint out of the 479 should be so honoured does not appear. However this may be, the coincidence of this traditional legend with one similar—*mutatis mutandis*—in the Sanskrit Hitopadesa is very remarkable. The place-names to which our attention has hitherto been directed are unmixed Celtic and Cymric, and, did they rest alone, we might infer that no other race had ever obtained a permanent footing in the Principality; but it is not so. The great masters of the Ancient World, who brought with them not only conquest and dominion, but also the arts of civilized life, held sway here for at least 400 years, and have left behind them conspicuous and permanent memorials, reflected in the names of the places they occupied, and of the works they executed. Conovium,

now *Caer Rhun*, dominated the Vale of Conway; Segontium, *Caer Seiont*, now *Caernarvon*, protected the Menai Strait; *Deva*, now *Chester*, and *Bovium*, *Bangor ys Coed*, overlooked the Dee, and we still find recorded their various strongholds in such names as *Caerleon* (*castra Legionis*), *Caerwys*, *Caergwrie*, *Caersws*, &c. The roads connecting these various stations are in many cases still the high roads of the country. *Sarn Helen*, which was the highway from *Conovium* to *Muridunum*, now *Caernarthen*, may still be traced through the defiles of *Dolwyddelan* and *Festiniog*. The fortifications which abound on the hill tops in every part of the Principality are called by different names, indicating their builders. For the most part the *caers* are of Roman origin, but by no means exclusively so. *Tre'r Cairi*, one of the finest British remains, may possibly have been occupied by the Romans, but it is decidedly of pre-Roman origin. The "*Castells*" are mostly mediæval, and the *dins* and *dinases* hill forts of the Cymric period. There is another element of nomenclature yet to be mentioned. The Danish and Norse sea rovers who harried and plundered the coasts of Europe for several centuries did not neglect Wales. The country, however, was poor, and offered few inducements to permanent settlement. Hence in North Wales the Danish nomenclature is confined to the coast, where many prominent points bear Danish names. The Point of Air, the Great and Little Orme's Heads, Priests Holme, or Puffin Island, the Skerries, Holyhead, the North and South Stacks, Bardsey, Angles-ey, with many others indicate the points taken possession of or frequented by the sea rovers who have thus left their traces on scattered and isolated positions. Along the estuary of the Dee the Danes did effect some permanent settlements, connected, no doubt, with the Wirral peninsula opposite, which was extensively colonised by the Norsemen. *Holywell*, *Whitford*, *Northop*, *Hawarden*, *Hope*, *Kinnerton*, *Halkin*, &c., indicate the Danish influence. Before I conclude I wish to add a few words on the boundary between Wales and England considered philologically. It might have been supposed that in the case of an intruding race gradually gaining ground and thrusting back or absorbing the aboriginal inhabitants step by step, there would be a manifest intermingling of the nomenclature of both races, and that the Saxon and Cymric names would insensibly be fused together. Such has been the case in North America where we find the old Indian names very numerous mixed with the English appellations. Such, however, is not the case in Wales and England. The English names in Wales, and the Welsh names in England are comparatively few in number and limited in extent. This is not unlikely owing to the existence in the middle ages of what were called the Welsh Marches, a sort of debatable or no man's land, which was occasionally the battle ground of the rival races, and which served to separate their conflicting interests. Commencing from the South, we know that Monmouthshire was, until a period not very remote, a part of the Principality, and we should therefore naturally expect that the vast majority of the place names would be Cymric, which is actually the case. West of the river Wye there are very few English names. There are *Whiteley*, *White Brook*, *Shire-Newton*, *Mounton*, *Grosmont* (which is French), and a few others mostly modern. In Gloucestershire, between the Severn and the Wye, there occur a few Welsh names such as *Lancant*, *St. Briavels*, *Newent*. In Herefordshire, east of the Black Mountain, a few occur, *Llanveino*, *Landwr*, *Ty Coch*, &c. In Breconshire there is scarcely an English place name west of the *Afon Honddu* and the upper reaches of the Wye. In Radnorshire, *Knighton* is almost the only English name, and this is barely within the border. In Montgomery-

shire the natural eastern boundary would be the Severn, but between the river and *Offa's Dyke* we find a strip of border land, where the Saxon and Cymric names are intermixed. *Buttington*, *Leighton*, *Forden*, *Newtown*, are side by side with *Llanmerewig*, *Llandyssil*, *Trewern*, *Llandrinio*. "*Montgomery*" is of course French. In Shropshire, north of the *Vyrnwy*, there is hardly a Welsh name east of *Offa's Dyke*, and to the west of that ancient boundary scarcely an English one. The nomenclature of Denbighshire is intensely Cymric, but in the east portion there are a few Saxon names, such as *Wrexham*, *Gresford*, *Bersham*. These naturally connect themselves with the Danish and Saxon settlements in the adjoining county of Flint. I must now bring these remarks to a close. I trust enough has been said to show the interest which attaches to the study of place names, and the light it is capable of throwing on the history of a country far beyond any written records. There is still a wide field open to investigation in this direction, and if these few words should have the effect of stimulating any to pursue further this course of inquiry I shall be amply repaid.

[We have followed Mr. Picton's spelling, though in some cases it is inaccurate. His statements and conclusions will probably give rise to much controversy.—Ed.]

SEPTEMBER 17, 1879.

SALOPIAN WORTHIES.—We are obliged to "S.R." for the trouble he has taken, but we do not care to overload our column with biographies, however short, that are merely abstracts from ordinary Biographical Dictionaries. Particulars about any person Mr. Salisbury may have overlooked in the Two-thousand local Worthies we are publishing in the Reprint of *Bye-gones*, we should be glad to receive, or facts about others not to be met with in every day authorities; more than this, it is only a waste of time to copy and space to publish.

NOTES.

ELLESMERE.—The diver who has been searching the Mere for Mr. Woolward's body states that during his search he found a good well-paved footpath running across the Mere in the direction of the church. Also that there is quite a forest of roots of trees at the bottom of the mud. This information may, perhaps, be of use to you for *Bye-gones*, through the column of which you will no doubt be able to obtain further information on the subject.

H. R. GILES.

AN OLD WELSH HARPER.

"In Towyn, Merionethshire, dwelt Griffith Owen, a very humble individual, but an excellent performer on the triple-stringed or old Welsh harp. He was respected by every one, and had seen more than eighty winters; but sorrow was in store for him. The partner of his long life was seized with mortal illness, and within a few days was carried to the grave. But this was only the beginning of Owen's grief. His son was suddenly taken ill, and very shortly after became a raving maniac. Now in Wales, from time immemorial, the people have been in the habit of recording their private feelings, matters of history, or events of any kind, by what they call triads, or using the number three; and this will explain what follows. Very late, one clear cold frosty night, a gentleman was crossing Towyn heath, where there is a beautifully romantic sea shore, with a natural terrace extending for miles. He saw before him some object moving, and on coming nearer heard a low groan; and to his surprise, there stood tottering with age, the venerable figure of Griffith Owen. He was leaning upon his staff, his plaid hanging loose about him, and his white hair streaming in the wind. 'Griffith,'

said the gentleman, 'what can have brought you, at such an hour, to this dreary place?' The old man instinctively replied in a Welsh Triad, 'My wife is dead, my son is mad, and my harp is unstrung!'

W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., of Peniarth, remembers, when he was a boy, this Griffith Owen butler at Ynys-y-maengwyn, in the time of old Mr. (Edw.) Corbet. The son mentioned, was, he thinks, harper at Wynnastay, and was accounted one of the most skilful harpers in Wales. It has also been narrated (in the *Carnarvon Herald*, 11 Aug. 1849) that Griffith Owen was landlord of the Raven Hotel (or inn as it would be called in those days), at Towyn, and that on one occasion he, with his harp, accompanied "his mirthful master, Mr. Corbet, to London." N.W.S.

SIR WILLIAM MAURICE OF CLENENNEY.

(Aug. 13, 1879.)

The following register, in cipher, is from the original, in the autograph of Sir Wm. Maurice of Clenenney, respecting whom much has recently appeared in *Bye-gones*. It is singular that he should have thought it necessary thus to mystify his family register.

I do not append a key to the cipher, as it may amuse others by attempting to unravel it, as it has myself. It will be seen that Sir William is not very correct in his *summing*.

Anno etatis mei	Anno domini . . . ic (die ?) 24 marcii* etas mea 3 Aprilis ante nativitatem etas 17 Anno domini 1559	Anno domini.
17 annorum 8 mensium 4 dierum	Wilhelmus natus 21 ¹ 726210br3s	1559.
19 annorum 3 mensium 7 di- erum	Ellis senior natus 24 35n 33S.394n bib (sic, bap)t 3st mort. ad 3 annor.	1561.
21 annorum 18 dierum	Elin nat. 19 1pr3l3s 21st 2r 104n7 132 A° 3.	1563.
22 Annor.	Jamnes nat. 3° 1pr3l3s 21st2r 104n7132 A°.	1564.
23 Annor. 11 dier.	gainor senior nat. 14 1pr3l3s pi 110s4n7132 252n2 mort ad 2 ann.	1565.
24 annor. 10 mensium 2 dier.	Thom. nat 5° 3ln51r33 2p3p91n3 252n2 A°	1566.
26 annor. 28 dier.	Elis Junior nat. 10133 ph3l3pp & 3164b A°	1568.
27 annor. 6 dier.	John nat. 22 S2pt210br3s Crastino post fest. 1016921 apostoli	1569.
28 annor 8 mensium 19 dier.	gwenhwyfar alias gaynor 27 nat. 27 n4 52110br3s orte sole	1570.
29 annor 11 mensium 12 dier.	nat. mort. 15 g2br5ir33 94ri 3 post meridiem	1571.
1571	uxor obiit 17 febr. 1571. etatis sue 31 A. 7 mensium	1571.
elin sonll. (Sontley)† 1572 nat.	Elis moris ar. obiit 19 1pr3l3s A° etatis sue 79 A° domini	†1572.

* "24 Marcii," "3 Aprilis;" difference between the new and old Styles.

† These appear to have been written 1571, and altered to 1572, or vice versa. I suspect the registry of "elin sonll." has been 1572, and altered to 1571, that of "Elis moris ar" to have been 1571, and altered to 1572, but his elegy says he died in 1571. Perhaps it was 1571-2.

Jo. Sonllu
(Sontley)
natus 1572

gaynor moris soror mei obiit 19 35n33 die Jovis A° etatis 19	1572.
Rs. moris frater mea obiit 26 35l33 A° etatis 27 A°	1572.
Jane moris soror obiit 19 35n33 A° etatis 30 A°	1573.
Morris ellis pater obiit 18 Octobris A° etatis 59	1575.
ellin sonllie obiit xxx octobr. A° etatis 4° nuptus fui primus 23 Septembr A° etatis 14 A° domini	1577...
annos men- cium 28 dier. 33 Annor. 4 mensium 22 dier. 1577.	1555. 1575.
Secund. nupt. 22 August etatis 33	
Elin Pulestonn mater mea obiit 30 Ap- rilis Anno etatis 53 A°	1577.
domina bagenall mortuus hibernie Anno domine (sic) 1573 3° decembr.	1573.
Elin william filia W. maurice Junior nat. 7 die octobr. A° 1578 ante ort. sol.	1578.
Elissa ap Robt. wynn† nat. 4° febr. 1577 hora 7 post meridiem	1577.
William ap Robt. wynn ap elissa† nat. aug. A° 1579	1579.
Elin verch Robt. wynn nat.† Marged verch Robt. wynn† nat.	
Wm. moris filius W Maurice nat. S. Peeters daye 1582	1582.
idem willielmus moritur 14 Maii 1585 hora 3 post mer.	1585.
nuptus fui primus 23 Sept. A° etatis 14	1586.
14 Annor. 5 mensium 23 dier.	
33 annor 4 mensium 22 dier.	
64 annor. 3 mensium & dor. (sic, query dierum?)	
nupt. 3 whitsone tuesdaye 1605 A° etatis 64	1605.

W.

QUERIES.

GEORGE SALUSBURY OF ERBISTOCK.—I have just seen in an old document, that a gentleman of this name married Jane Grosvenor of Eaton (near Chester), and that she was buried at the Grosvenor vault at Eccleston, Cheshire. I am anxious to know whose son George Salusbury was, and if he had any children by Jane Grosvenor. Also if the Salusburies of Erbistock descended from the Bachymbyd or Rhng families, and how they gained a settlement at Erbistock. Mr. Wynne of Peniarth, probably, is the only gentleman who can give reliable information on these points, and I should be grateful to him if he will kindly do so. G.A.S.

OSWESTRY CHURCH.—The *Oswestry Herald* for May 23, 1820, says "The steeple (sic) of our church is undergoing considerable repairs. A great part of it is rebuilding with new stone, from an adjacent quarry." In some MS. annotations to a copy of Price's *History*, I have seen it stated that the "steeple" was repairing in 1791, when the masons frightened the congregation at a Feast sermon by rattling some stones on to the roof, but I never heard of repairing—much less of "rebuilding" in 1820. Some of our older inhabitants could perhaps tell how much work was done? JARCO.

I observe that the Rev. Howell Evans, in the paper he read at Oswestry Church before the members of the Cambrian Archaeological Society, spoke of the Yale monument as being erected in 1618. If this is so it will at once settle a vexed question, and prove that the great destruction of the building took place, not in the civil wars, but

† Robert Wynn Brynker.

before Charles I. came to the throne. If the vicar is correctly reported will he kindly say how he arrives at this date. Are the deaths of Alderman Yale and wife recorded in the Registers? OSWALD.

REPLIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Dec. 4, 1878, Apr. 9, Sep. 10, 1879).—*William Leigh*. On Mar. 13, 1878, I referred to this old Oswestrian as being confounded with another William Leigh, who was landlord of the Wynn-stay Arms. I have just found an obituary notice of the former which appeared in the *Salopian Journal* of Apr. 3, 1805, as follows:

The late William Leigh, Esq., of Pentredafydd, near Oswestry, whose death was noticed in our last, was immediately descended by his paternal relations from the Leighs of High Leigh, in Cheshire: by his maternal, from the Hammers, of Sylattin, from whom he inherited considerable landed property.—He was remotely related to the House of Porkington and Pentrepant. This is followed by the usual panegyric, which must be taken as read. Mr. Leigh died on Mar. 20, 1805.

JARCO.

NAME OF AUTHOR WANTED (Aug. 27, 1879). I am sorry I cannot supply your correspondent IDNERTH with the name of the author of the couplet:—

Afonydd dwrf olwynion
A drystant ym mhalmant Mon.

He is rather too hasty, however, in assuming that it is ungrammatical. He probably took "twrf" to be the nominative case to the verb "trystant," but why should it not be "olwynion?" R.W.

REV. JOSEPH VENABLES (Sep. 5, 1879).—My attention has been called to an enquiry by JARCO. The Rev. Joseph Venables—born in 1696, died in 1765—was my great grand-father. The Rev. J. V. who was born 1726 and died 1810, was the eldest son of the other Joseph. He was never married. His next brother was my grand-father, the late Mr. Venables of Wood Hill, who died at a great age in (I think) the year 1812.

R. LISTER VENABLES.

Lylysindan, Newbridge-on-Wye, Radnorshire.

[JARCO's main enquiry, we take it, was about another "Rev. Joseph Venables," who was minister of the Old Chapel, Oswestry, in 1727-45. Who was he?—ED.]

CURRENT NOTES.

The *Athenæum* says that Mr. W. J. Craig, late Professor of English at the Welsh College at Aberystwyth, editor of "Cymbeline" for the New Shakespeare Society, has been for some years collecting materials for a Shakespeare Glossary. He hopes now to complete it in three years.

It is stated that Mr. Robinson, proprietor of *The Garden*, and Mr. Backhouse, a well-known botanist, in the course of a trip in North Wales, have found the Killarney Fern (*Trichomanes Radicans*) growing profusely.

The *British Architect* says it is pleasant to record that the one Welsh gold mine which has survived until now—the Vigna and Clogau—increased its yield of gold last year to 697 oz. of the value of £2,825. Its production in 1877 was 139 oz. only.

Lord Dudley has large tracks of coal in Tipton only 16 feet below the surface. The superincumbent ground is removed, and in the open between the ground and the coal the remains of animals have been found, and Lord Shrewsbury and the South Staffordshire Institute of Mining Engineers have been inspecting the place and the remains. Local savants proclaim the bones to be of the reindeer species, showing a period of great cold.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1879.

NOTES.

RICHARD JONES THE PRINTER.—Richard Jones, Jhones, or Johnes, was, as is well known, an early English printer, who carried on business in St. Paul's Churchyard, London, from about 1570 to about the year 1599. He was an extensive printer, and upwards of eighty of the productions of his press are known to bibliographers. There is reason to think that he was a native of Wales, or of Welsh extraction. In the first place, his name was *Jones*, a presumptive evidence that he was a Cambrian; the English historians of the typographic art are silent as to his native country, and furnish no account of his life; he printed at least two books relating to Wales, and lastly his device bore a Welsh motto. This device, as represented on p. 585 of Johnson's *Typographia*, was a flower surrounded by the well known Welsh adage—HEB. DDIEV. HEB. DDIM. None of the other devices mentioned in the work just alluded to have a Welsh motto, though most of them had inscriptions of some kind. The books having reference to Wales printed by Jones are—Humphrey Lloyd's *Breviary of Brytayne*, Englished by Twyne, in 1573; and "Dean Nowell's *Catechisme* in Welsh," in 1578. That he printed books relating to the Principality is, of course, in itself no proof that he was a Welshman, other English printers who had no such connexion having done the same thing, but this fact, coupled with the other considerations, tends to strengthen my conjecture.

DYVNIG.

QUERIES.

A SHROPSHIRE ROBBERY AND MURDER. A *Salopian* paper of Sept. 1833 says:—"It is stated that an accomplice in the robbery and murder of Francis Bruce and his servant Ann Taylor, at Longford near Market Drayton, about 20 years ago, recently died near Ellesmere, having previously confessed his guilt to a clergyman." The self-accused it was reported, said that the man (Preston) who was hung for the murder only kept watch at the door, whilst he and another man actually committed the crime. What were the circumstances connected with the case? N.S.

THE DEVIL IN THE WAY.—In an old number of *Notes and Queries* (Vol. 2, p. 142), R. C. WARDE wrote as follows about a Shropshire Superstition:—"A remarkable case of superstition yet lingering in this county having come under my notice, I have made further inquiries, and find it by no means uncommon. At certain places the devil is supposed to exert a stronger influence than at others, and this is most perceptible in narrow and difficult ways. A village stile is a favourite resort of the adversary, and when, under such circumstances, an unfortunate wight attempts the surmounting, he finds his efforts fruitless, till he has turned some article of clothing inside out. So strongly is this superstition implanted, that I have heard of women deliberately turning their gowns before crossing the stile." I have lived nearly all my life in Shropshire and have never met with this superstition, and I would invite the information of those who have. Mr. Warde, I note, supposes the germ of this to arise from the fact that the devil does impede the progress of those who travel the 'narrow way'; but how does 'turning the gown' propitiate the Evil One? SALOPIAN.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY WEATHER SIGNS (Jan. 15, 1879).

It was mentioned at this date that, to old Oswestrians, the words once visible on the front of the Powis Hall ("Jones, Glass and China Warehouse") were marks of weather-changes. Some readers may be curious to know how old these letters were; and I can supply the information from a newspaper-advertisement of Apr. 1805. On Mar. 25, of that year "James Jones, China and Glass Man," announced that he had "removed from the Cross to the Bailey House, Town Hall."

OSWALD.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR.

(Sept. 3, 1879.)

Your correspondent ARGUS does not appear to have noticed that Mr. Wynn was speaking of Meifod when he mentioned that Sir A. Panizzi believed the grammar was printed at Mediolanum. Mr. Wynn plainly stated that some supposed Meifod to be the site of the Roman city of Mediolanum.

LLETTWER.

As to Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar, Mr. Wynne of Peniarth, writes to me: "G. Roberts's Welsh Grammar was *not* burnt in the Wynnstay fire. There were four copies of it, all of which belonged to your father, and out of these I made up a perfect copy for Sir Watkin, so far as the work was ever finished—the only perfect copy in existence. That in the British Museum wants a table of contents. The work never was completed, but was undoubtedly printed at *Milan*, for another Welsh work entitled 'Ydrych Christianogawl,' which was unquestionably printed at Milan, has the same device on the title page." Possibly you may care to insert the pith of this in reply to your correspondent.

C. W. WILLIAMS WYNN.

In reply to your correspondent ARGUS, if he will refer to a *very rare* Welsh volume, entitled "Y drych Christianogawl," of which there is a copy in the British Museum, he will find, at the page signed "D. 1," that Roberts's Welsh Grammar was printed at *Milan*, and I am almost sure that he will find—it is long since I referred to "Ydrych Christianogawl"—that it contains the same device as is on the title page of the Grammar. This title page shows that the latter work was printed in 1567.

W.

In my letter in the *Athenæum* I did not express any doubt as to the accuracy of the generally-received opinion that Griffith Roberts's Grammar was printed in some foreign country. That, to my thinking, is sufficiently evident to all that will take the trouble to compare it with the productions of the Continental press of about the same date. What I called attention to is the fact that the book itself has no reference whatever to Milan (*Mediolanum*), or any other place at which it was printed. I have read it every line, and transcribed almost every page of it; but nowhere do I find Milan mentioned. It has neither imprint nor colophon. What fills the place of the imprint in most other books is simply—"1567. Primo Martij." There is no doubt as to the *date*, at least, of the first part; and Mr. C. W. Williams Wynn must have quoted from memory at the Welshpool meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, when he gave the year 1620 as the date of its publication.

The first direct statement that the book was executed at Milan appears to be that which occurs in the "Epistola Dedicatoria," prefixed to Dr. John David Rhys's Welsh Grammar, which was published in London in 1592, twenty-five years after the appearance of Dr. Roberts's book. The passage is as follows:—

Vnam tantummodò Grammatices partem, Orthographiam videlicet, doctissimè & bytannicè conscripsit, Mediolani excudit, nobilibus simque Comitì Penbrochiensi Prenomine Guilielmo, clarissimè illius et doctissimè, insigni pietate præditi, omniſque laude et fauore dignissimi, amici mei perpetuò honorandi Edouardi Hereberthi Cambrobrytanni, Equitis auro, inclyto patri nuncupauit ille vir doctissimus, insignisque nostre ætatis Philosphie professor D. Gryphythius Rubertius Cambrobrytannus.

Dr. Rhys was born in 1534 (Williams, *Eminent Welshmen*, s. v.), and was therefore thirty-three years old at the time the Grammar of Dr. Roberts made its appearance. Thus we have the evidence of a contemporary. We know from other sources that Griffith Roberts resided at Milan about this date, being Canon of the Cathedral and Confessor to Cardinal Borromeo, archbishop of that city, who was afterwards canonized by Pope Paul V. in 1610. See my note in *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, s.a. 1567, p. 22. There can therefore be hardly any reasonable doubt as to its having been printed at a place called *Mediolanum*; but where is this *Mediolanum*? Until lately it was generally supposed to be Milan, in Lombardy; but some years ago the late Sir (then Mr.) Antonio Panizzi started the strange theory that the place in question was not the Italian city of that name, but that *crux* of archaeologists, which is generally located somewhere in lower Montgomeryshire; and which Mr. Wynn apparently finds at Welshpool or in the immediate neighbourhood. Such a theory may safely be left to its own fate; and until we arrive at something approaching to certainty with regard to the much contested site of this Roman station, we may as well save ourselves the trouble of setting up a printing press there. I shall feel deeply obliged to any one that will produce satisfactory evidence that any press existed within the limits of the Principality before that established at *Trefhedym* (called in legal English *Adpar*), in Cardiganshire, in the year 1719. Printing was first introduced into Montgomeryshire in 1787, when a press was set up at Machynlleth.

As Panizzi's letters regarding Griffith Roberts's Grammar, have not, to my knowledge, been hitherto printed, except an extract or two, and as his theory has just been revived, I subjoin them here as a supplement to the documents which Mr. Wynne has lately published on the same subject. (*Bye-gones*, Aug. 6, 1879.)

Brit. Museum, March 10th.*

My dear Sir,—I beg to thank you very much for the three very rare parts of Roberts's Welsh Grammar which you have been so good as to send us. I agree with you that it seems as if the book was never completed, and therefore not published.

On looking over the two books—our first part and the volume which you sent us—the type struck me as *not* Italian. I then began to inquire on what authority it has been repeated for ages that that work was printed at Milan, and I found that probably it was only owing to the statement of Rhys to which you allude who says that Roberts wrote one part of the Grammar, and "*Mediolani excudit*." But the *Mediolanum* here mentioned is not, in my humble opinion, Milan in Italy, but the *Mediolanum* mentioned by Antoninus in the country of the *Ordovices* and now *Llan Vethlin*, formerly I suppose *Methlin*, in Montgomeryshire.

I shall be happy if you agree with me; or at least I shall submit: for as an Italian I cannot rejoice at my discovery, altho' you as a Welshman will.—Believe me, my dear sir, with great respect, yours very truly,

A. PANIZZII.

P.S. I am for Llan Vethlin or any other *pure* Welsh town being meant by Rhys, and I incline to one in Montgomeryshire the dedication being to Lord Pembroke, tho' I find that Reynolds thinks *Mediolanum* to be Whitechurch.

The Right Honble, C. W. Wynn.

* No year is given. One of Tegid's letters to Mr. Wynn, referring to the same subject, is dated Feb. 10, 1845, and another simply "St. David's Day."

British Museum, March 28th.

My dear Sir,—Many thanks for your letter & the one enclosed from Mr. Jones. I trust you will excuse me if I differ from such high authorities & still think that Roberts' Grammar was not printed at Milan in Italy. That it was printed in Wales I think most probable on Rhys' authority and on no other ground. It may be it was printed at *no* Milan, but I am confident as to that in Italy. However I shall soon learn whether Roberts was a Canon there.

It is a strong proof of our conscientious opinions that Welsh Gentlemen are so willing to maintain to Italy the honor of having printed a Welsh Grammar, whilst I, once an Italian, & who have not yet forgotten my *fatherland*, as now *country* is called, presume to insist that Wales has a just claim to the credit of such an edition. Always with great respect, Yours very truly

A. PANIZZI.

The Right Honble. C. W. Wynn.

Such was the opinion of the late Principal Librarian at the British Museum!

It may be added that the printing of the book is not uniform, and that some time seems to have elapsed between the appearance of the first and the later portions. The type of the first part is bolder and clearer than that in the succeeding portions. This may to some extent be owing to the fact that the page, though the letterpress is about half an inch taller, in the first part, including the introductory matter, consists of only twenty lines, while in the remaining parts it contains twenty-one. In the former portion, therefore, the lines are considerably more spaced out than in the rest of the book, the execution of which is altogether inferior to that of the earlier instalment, and the type more worn out, especially in the portion, mostly poetical, which begins with "Symblen yr Abostolion."

I may as well here correct an erroneous statement which occurs in *Llyfyrddiaeth y Cymry*, p. 22, with reference to the book under notice, which is to the effect that the copy at Wynnstay perished in the fire which burnt down that noble mansion in 1858. Most fortunately such is not the case; the precious volume is still preserved; and by the courtesy of its worthy owner I am enabled to make this brief collation of it.

D. SILVAN EVANS.

P.S.—The date of Griffith Roberts's Grammar, as well as that of William Salesbury's Welsh Testament, which appeared in the same year, conveniently forms a sort of *memoria technica*—1, 5, 6, 7.

STRAY NOTES.

MONTH DAY AND WEEK DAY.—The following appears in the *Times*:—"Sir,—The following old couplet, committed to memory, affords an easy rule for ascertaining without reference to an almanack on what day of the week any day of a month will fall:—

At Dover Dwells George Brown, Esquire,
Good Christian Friend, and David Friar.

Explanation.—The couplet contains 12 words, one for each month in order, beginning with January. The initial letter of each word corresponds with the letter in the calendar for the first of the month represented by the word. The key to the use of the rule is the knowledge of the Sunday letter for the year, which this year is E. Example 1.—On what day of the week did March 16 fall this year? Answer.—D, the first letter of "Dwells," stands for March 1. But D is the letter or day before E—that is, D, the 1st of March, was a Saturday. The calculation is instantaneous that March 16 was the third Sunday in the month. Example 2.—On what day in the week will December 3 fall? F is December 1. But F is the day after E—i.e., Monday; therefore December 3 will be on a Wednesday. So many of my friends have asked for a copy of this ready-reckoner that perhaps its proved utility may induce you to publish it for general information.—T. B. PAGET. Welton, Sept. 8."

AN OLD OSWESTRY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting of the Oswestry Agricultural Society held in Oswestry early in 1820, Mr. Evans of Sweeney received the sweepstakes for the heaviest crop of Potatoes. A piece of land, of sixty-one square yards, produced 720 lbs., and another piece in the same field 708 lbs.

AN ANTIQUITY AND A PHENOMENON ON
A WELSH HILL.

On an out of the way hill close to the sea coast of Carnarvon Bay, there is a curious relic of great antiquity. The hill in question is called 'Yr Eifl,' corrupted by Saxon tongues into 'The Rivals.' It has three peaks, the highest of which is in the centre, and attains to some 1,880 feet. There is a broad marshy dip between this and the peak more to the east, and most inland of the three. In this dip, and stretching up the western side of the inland peak is the object I have referred to. It is an ancient fortification, nearly oblong in shape, surrounded by a wall of loose stones, about 900 yards in circumference, single where it runs along the nearly precipitous side of the mountain, but double (and in some places there are traces of its having been treble) where the ground is not so steep. The main entrance was on the west side. There is an opening in the inner wall, and then an inclined causeway at right angles to the opening down to another opening in the lower wall. Within the enclosed space, scattered about apparently without much regularity, are groups of huts, composed of loose stone walls, mostly circular or oval, but some nearly square. The circular ones are from ten to fifteen feet in diameter, the walls in some instances six feet high, but very few attain this height, and in most cases the area is so filled up with stones and rubbish that it is very difficult to judge what the height was. The huts were probably roofed with turf or heath. There are no traces of windows. The sides of the mountain are covered with masses of loose stones, some of great size, which doubtless served for the purpose of defence. This singular place is now known by the name of 'Tre'r Ceiri,' 'The Town of Fortresses.' But, I believe, its age, origin, or purpose, has not as yet been satisfactorily determined. Some suppose the builders to have been the Gael or Gwyddel, before they were driven out by the Cymry, though tradition assigns it to the latter. But this may be accounted for by the supposition that the Cymry appropriated to their own use a fortress of such strength and extent. However, there can be no doubt that it dates back to a remote antiquity, and is well worth a visit: and any one who undertakes the labour of scaling the steep and stony eminence, which this ancient fortress crowns, will be well rewarded for his trouble, not only by the curious sight Tre'r Ceiri presents, but also by the magnificent views which the hill commands. Holyhead Mountain, Bardsey Island, Cardigan Bay with the Merionethshire coast beyond, all being plainly visible on a clear day; but above all, Snowdon in all his grandeur and the magnificent pile of adjacent mountains, which remind one of a monarch surrounded by his court.

Taking leave of Tre'r Ceiri, I made my way to the highest point of Yr Eifl; and while there, witnessed a very remarkable phenomenon which, I believe, is but rarely seen. It was the evening of a summer's day, and the sun was near the horizon due West. A few light clouds came up from the South and passed very near me on the Eastern side of the hill, and as they passed I saw my shadow cast upon them by the sun. At first it was small and at a distance, but as the clouds came nearer the mountain, the spectral shadow increased to gigantic

proportions, and faithfully imitated my own actions. When I stretched out my arms or waved them about, the spectre did the same. As the clouds got denser a beautiful rainbow surrounded the shadow, sometimes circular or oval, but at other times quite pointed at the top. When the clouds were thin and light the appearance was very shadowy and indistinct; but the thicker the clouds got, the more plainly visible became the spectre; and, framed as it was with the rainbow, it was a most beautiful as well as a most curious sight. I have heard of this phenomenon being seen in Switzerland, where it is called the Spectre of the Brocken, but I should like to know if any one has witnessed it, or heard of its being seen, on the mountains of Wales or Cumberland. O.M.F.

[Some of our readers may like to know that a full description of Tre'r Ceiri is given in *Arch. Cambrensis*, 4th Ser., No. 5. The "Spectre of the Brocken" (so-called, as our readers are aware, from the highest summit of the Harz mountains in Germany) has been seen, we believe, though rarely, on other mountains in Wales, as well as in Cumberland. Staying at Keswick nine years ago we were told that the reflection of vessels had been seen during that summer on the clouds on Skiddaw, and several years before troops of horsemen were observed. Perhaps some of our readers can supply instances of the appearance of the Spectre of the Brocken in Wales.—Ed.]

RE-OPENING OF WEST FELTON CHURCH.

The parish church of S. Michael, West Felton, was reopened after restoration on Thursday, Sept. 18. This interesting old church is one of the few churches in this part of the country of Norman date, of which the main features of the original structure have been to any considerable extent preserved. West Felton Church, formerly consisted, as it consists now, of a chancel, nave, with circular piers and arches, of the Norman period, north and south aisles and tower. The original date of the chancel is not known. Like so many other churches in this country it suffered greatly from the treatment which, through ignorance, rather than irreverence, it received during the eighteenth century. The old church tower was then unfortunately blown down, and a new one of mean and unsuitable design was erected in its place. At the same time the north and south aisles were pulled down, and the Norman arcading blocked up with masonry. In this state the building remained until about forty years ago, when the north aisle arches were opened and a new aisle put in. The work of restoration—of which the church stood in great need—was begun through the persevering efforts of the Rector, the Rev. R. K. Haslehurst, about twelvemonths ago. Mr. F. B. Wade, of London, was the architect to whom it was entrusted. There was no contractor for the whole work. The masonry work was very efficiently done by Mr. John Williams, of Newbridge, Cefn. The clerk of the works, Mr. Ishmael Edwards, died some months ago, during the progress of the work, and his place has since been virtually supplied by the Rector himself, who has taken the greatest interest in all the details of the restoration and their execution. The work of restoration included the opening out of the arcade of Norman arches on the south side of the nave, and the erection of a new south aisle and porch of the Decorated period, and a new vestry and organ chamber. Shelvoke quarry stone was that used in the restoration. An unsightly gallery has been removed from the east side of the tower, and a tower arch opened, thus throwing the interior of the church open to its western extremity. The belfry was removed, and

the bells (which are only three in number) are now rung from the floor of the church. Owing to the insufficiency of the restoration fund to carry out the design of the architect in its entirety, it was intended to leave the west wall of the tower, which was pierced with two ugly circular holes, untouched. Fortunately, Mr. John Humphreys, of Hanley Hall, came to the rescue, and presented a handsome west window, which adds materially to the good effect of the restoration. The very good fourteenth century roof of the nave has been lined and tiled, and entirely new oak barred roof erected in the chancel. The sittings throughout the church are new. They are open seats of pitch pine, and were made at Conover, by Mr. E. Vaughan, through the kind permission of his employer, Major Cholmondeley. The church will now seat about 350 persons. The floor is laid with encaustic tiles. The church is heated by means of hot air apparatus. The cost of restoration was upwards of £2,000, towards which about £1,600 had been subscribed before the re-opening, leaving therefore, a deficiency of £400.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Sept. 10, 1879.)

MORE, JASPER ROBERT. This gentleman has entitled himself to notice as the writer of a volume upon the Turkish Atrocities in South Eastern Europe—"Under the Balkans," and also as the representative of a very ancient border family who time out of mind have held their lands upon the royal condition of supplying a body guard to the Sovereign when he went into Wales. Henry the third is known to have enforced this duty upon a More of Linley. Another of this family was companion of Edward the second in the Tower, and wrote an account of his life. Richard, Samuel, and Robert More have been noticed already as active members of the community, and who as senators, gallant soldiers, sheriffs of their county, or Mayors of Shrewsbury, have proved their claim to distinction and repute. Robert More was a F.R.S., and a member of its council, the friend and pupil of Linnæus, and the very first Englishman who introduced larch among our forest trees; he also brought over and planted at Linley many Spanish plants, and twice received the thanks of the Cortes for services he had rendered to Spain. He was living at Shrewsbury when the celebrated "Quarry" was laid out and planted, and his own avenues at Linley were planted at the same time, and upon the same plan. Mr. Jasper More has himself sat in Parliament for South Shropshire 1865-8, he was also chairman of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, so that he fairly represents the virtues, the public qualities, as well as the blood, of his more eminent progenitors. Himself a Salopian by birth, he continues to take a warm interest in every movement that is likely to benefit the county.

MORGAN, SIR EDWARD, son of George Morgan, of Pengoed Castle, Monmouthshire, is claimed as a native of that county. He came into possession of the castle and estate upon the death of his cousin, Lady Morgan. He was knighted by King Charles the First at the commencement of the civil war, and is supposed, therefore, to have been a Royalist; but there is no mention of him as among the King's followers in Monmouthshire, and in 1646 indeed the castle was held by the Parliamentary party. He probably was a quiet observer of the great events of his time—a waiter on Providence; but in 1648 he died, leaving no issue evidently, for his brother succeeded to his inheritance, and after him it passed to a sister, a Mrs. Gwyn, who in 1663 held it.

MORGAN, HENRY, who is mentioned by Willis as an Oxford man, but who is said upon a much better authority to have been a native of Monmouthshire, was educated at Oxford. He had been a Canon at Lincoln, and being a resolute Papist was promoted to the see of St. David's on the deprivation of Bishop Farrar in 1553. His conduct to the late prelate was harsh, unchristianlike, and fiercely cruel, and he had the chief hand in bringing that excellent man to the stake. When Elizabeth came to the crown, he in his turn was deprived of his see, and returning to Wolverest, near Oxford, in 1559, he died, a devoted son of the Church of Rome, but we may hope a repentant one for his bloody persecution of a brother Bishop.

MORGAN, JOHN, who died in 1792, was a native of Monmouthshire, and sat in Parliament as one of the members for that county. He came from a very renowned stock, and may be said to be the last of his race in the male line, his brothers Thomas dying unmarried in 1791, and Charles in 1787. He had two sisters, Jane and Catherine; one married Sir Charles Gould, the other Mr. Van, of Llanwern. Mr. Morgan bequeathed Tredegar, and a great part of his vast estates, to his sister, Lady Gould, and at her death in 1797, her son, Sir Charles Morgan (who had taken her maiden name) inherited the whole. There is a curious story related of Mr. Morgan, how he, on succeeding to the property, found so much gold in the house that he shared it with his brother in *shovels*, to save the trouble of counting it. He had married when far advanced in life, but dying without any heirs, his wealth, influence, and name, passed away in the manner already stated.

MORGAN, OCTAVIUS. This worthy Monmouthian was born in 1803, being the second son of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar Park, in that county. He was educated at Westminster School and Christ Church, Oxford, and sat in Parliament for many years, as one of the members for his native county; but his chief recommendation to notice is the service he has rendered to Monmouthshire as an antiquary. He has written and published a great number of papers upon this interesting subject, and is admitted to be a great authority upon all questions of this nature.

MORGAN (PELAGIUS). This eminent man is always mentioned as "a native of Wales," but according to the well resolved opinion of the late Mr. Walter Davies, he was so only as having been born in Monmouthshire, which in his day (the fourth century) was an integral part of Wales, as it long continued to be, and, as some will say, still is. The ancient Britons are supposed to have had a knowledge of God when many of the surrounding nations were given over wholly to heathenism, but "this knowledge was clouded by the prevailing superstitions of Druidism." It was a common practice among them to offer up human sacrifices to *gods*, but not, it is thought, to one supreme God. This state of things probably continued until the Romans had gained dominion in Britain, and had brought over a form of religion which differed greatly from the Druidical one. Some say St. Paul preached the pure Gospel to the ancient Britons, but this can be founded upon no authority, for all the early records of Christianity in this country must have been destroyed during the "wars and persecutions which followed the first preaching of the Gospel" here. We know that among other places held by the Romans, Caerleon-on-Usk was one, and it is generally thought to have been the seat of learning, religion, and authority in very early times. This notion is partly founded upon the fact that it supplied some of the first eminent martyrs for the faith, and thus are we led step by

step to look upon it as the chief centre from whence the knowledge of Christ was sent forth to Wales, and to the border lands thereabouts. Morgan is believed to have been born in this city, and to have been brought up from childhood in the Christian faith; and upon that assumption it is not improper to dwell somewhat at large upon his birth-place and its subsequent history. This *Caerleon* has a history well deserving of study. It is the *Isca Silurum* of the Romans, and was their chief station in the country of the Silures. This city was formerly a metropolitan see, but Saint David, the national saint of Wales, thinking the noisy intercourse of a populous city like Caerleon ill adapted for contemplation, or, through the solitary cast of his mind, removed it to Menevia, which from that period has been called Ty Ddewi by the Welsh, and Saint Davids by the English. According to Le Neve, Dubricius, Archbishop of Caerleon, is called by this title—Archbishop of Wales. Godwin fixes no time for his coming in, but only says that he, waxing old, resigned his See to David a disciple of his; and that he died, and was buried in the Isle of Bardsee, Nov. 14, 522. David removed the see, as before stated, from Caerleon to Menevia; and, according to the time Godwin allows him to sit, viz. sixty-five years, and to die in 642, we may suppose he came there in 577. It is said he lived to a great age, viz. 146 years; and dying in 642, as is aforesaid stated, was buried in the Cathedral which himself had caused to be built. Warrington says—"This celebrated person was uncle to King Arthur, and son of a Prince of Wales. After being seated in the see of St. David sixty-five years, and having built twelve monasteries, after having been exemplary in the piety of those days, this holy person died, at a most advanced period of human life, having attained, as it is said, to the age of one hundred and forty-six years. He was buried in the Cathedral Church of St. David and many years after canonized by Pope Calistus the second." Pope Calistus by whom David was canonized, had, it seems, raised this place to a rank second only to the Pontifical city itself in the meritorious efficacy of the Pilgrimages made to it, having declared that two visits to St. David's were equal to one to Rome. This occasioned a proverbial rhyme in Welch which has thus been translated into Latin—

Roma semel quantum, bis dat Menevia tantum.

King Arthur, according to some accounts, "esteemed the city of Caerleon as the principal place in those parts of his dominions," and if that be true, then is it strange how he could have allowed the National Saint of Wales to have removed the Metropolitan see from Caerleon to Menevia. What the condition and extent of this town formerly was it is difficult to say, having been so frequently destroyed. At present it is a very small city, and has nothing to boast of but its ruined palace and old cathedral, dedicated to St. Andrew and St. David, which has often been demolished, but rebuilt in its present form by Bishop Peter, according to Giraldus, in the reign of King Henry II., or, as Willis says, "in the year 1110, in Rhos Vale, below the town." Caerleon on the other hand still boasts of numerous inducements to stay the progress of the antiquary; it is by some called the *Isca Colonia* of the Romans, and was a principal garrison, being the head quarters or main station of the second Augustan legion, having under it numerous other stations. Mr. Cox states the shape of this ancient city to be an oblong square, three sides straight, the fourth curved; the south angle is near the end of the Round Table field, where the walls are nearly twelve feet thick; the south-west side passes the Amphitheatre parallel to the Usk; the walls are again to be traced by the Broadway along the

Benhouse field; the west angle runs alongside the Malpas road. On this flank a gateway leads to Goldcroft Common; the north angle forms part of a stable in the New Inn yard, is again visible in the Castle yard, and turns the east angle near a rail-road by the Castle ditch; hence the line curves again, touches on the foss of the Castle, passes through gardens, &c., and is lost in a lane near the quay till it again becomes discernible near the south angle. The circumference of the walls, in which there appear to have been four gates, one in the centre of each flank, was about 1,800 feet. It was a station of the Praetor, and its splendid palaces, its stately edifices and gilded roofs, might, according to Giraldus, have vied with those of Rome itself; its baths, its aqueducts; its stoves, and proofs of ancient grandeur were even in his time amply displayed in their ruins; numerous, too, are the coins that have been here collected, and the riches this spot has afforded to the cabinets of the curious. But so transitory are all things on earth that we read of Kings who made their pilgrimages—not to Caerleon, but, to St. David's, the saintly character of the founder having sanctified the place of his burial, for according to Godwin he was buried in the Cathedral Church of the last named city. William the Conqueror made his pilgrimage to it in 1079; King Henry the Second, who honoured Bishop David Fitzgerald with his company in 1171, and King Edward the First, and Eleanor his queen, who made their pilgrimage in 1284, when Bishop Beck held the see. "The pilgrims of inferior rank who resorted here were innumerable, and their offerings served greatly to enrich the ecclesiastics, who spared no pains to enhance the merit of the penance, by which the poor votaries thus soothed their consciences and emptied their pockets." We must not repine over the fallen greatness of Caerleon. Aaron and Julius, two of its noted citizens, were among the very earliest martyrs for the Christian faith; and when we had three Roman provinces in Britain, governed by Archbishops, Caerleon was one of them, and included within its jurisdiction the whole of Wales, and that part of England bordering thereon. If to that we add that Morgan was a native of the place, we can look upon its ancient history with reverence. He was a learned man; had travelled much in Italy and in the east, was acquainted with St. Chrysostom and St. Augustine, and so much respected by them that they "grieved at his fall," and no doubt felt that his doctrines were both dangerous and false. His heterodox faith may be thus stated. "God made me, but if I am made righteous, it is my own work." It is sad to think how so great a man could have fallen so low, but this fall of his brought St. Germain and Lupus over to England, and some say his brother Vincent also, whose celebrated book, called "A defence of the Catholic faith," became a main instrument in Cranmer and Ridley's hands afterwards in promoting the cause of the Reformation. St. Germain coming to England a second time, promoted the foundation of monasteries in Britain, "to preserve religion and useful learning," and thus were surely laid the foundations of our faith, the bulwarks of our liberty, and the greatness of our Christian character in days to come, partly through Morgan's failings, but wholly by God's grace and under his blessing.

MORGAN, PHILIP, a distinguished Monmouthian by birth, secured through that fortunate accident the friendship and confidence of King Henry V., who made him Chancellor of Normandy, and Lord Privy Seal. His scholarship made him great both in civil and in ecclesiastical matters, and thus he became a fit instrument for negotiating with foreign Powers some of the important questions which occupied the attention of the English Court. His success

brought him into power, and led to his own promotion. In 1419 he was appointed Bishop of Worcester, and in 1425 Bishop of Ely, where he died in 1435 "greatly honoured and universally mourned."

MORGAN, PHILIP, elected from Eton to King's College, 1471, was proctor 1481, also one of the esquire bedels. He proceeded M.D. 1507, and was physician to Margaret Countess of Richmond and Derby. He was installed into the prebend of Buckden, in the church of Lincoln 8th May, 1512, and in March, 1512-13, was instituted to the rectory of Toft, Cambridge. On 23rd December, 1515, he was installed into the prebend of Milton Manor in the church of Lincoln, but died soon afterwards, as, upon 29th March, 1516, a mandate issued for induction of Edmund Bendysh to the church of Toft, then vacant by the death of Philip Morgan, so that the statement that he had resigned the prebend of Milton Manor for a pension in 1571 must be erroneous. He was undoubtedly a Monmouthian by birth.

MORGAN, THOMAS, a native of Penttryn, said to be in Monmouthshire, is best known as a clerk or secretary in Mary Queen of Scots' service in France. The tradition is that he was a love child of a Morgan of Tredegar, and was sent to Oxford for his education by his reputed father, and being a zealous Catholic that he obtained Mary's favour, and thus became her servant. Wood mentions him as the trusted friend of Owen Lewis, president of the English College at Rome, and that afterwards he came under the lash of the Jesuits, who caused him to be imprisoned at Paris, and deprived of his receivership under Mary. By the express command of Pope Sixtus V., he was released from prison, and he then attacked the Jesuits unmercifully, but only to be once more caught in their toils, for at their instance he was long imprisoned by the Duke of Parma, and was not released until the death of that Prince. Returning to Rome, he spent the remainder of his days under the roof of the English College, and did not die until after 1593, if old Anthony Wood can be depended upon.

MORGAN, THOMAS, was born near Pontypool, Monmouthshire, in the year 1808, and having decided to enter upon ministerial work among the Independents, he proceeded to Newtown Academy for his theological training. In 1832 he was ordained to the pastorate of the Church at Welshpool, from whence he removed to Great Bridge, thence to Theddingworth, and eventually to Hartshill, Warwickshire, where he died in 1878, after a laborious ministry of six and forty years. Mr. Morgan had been well educated in youth, and thus in his maturer years he acquired the reputation of being a well read man. His studies were not confined to theology, but he possessed a thorough knowledge of general literature, and all his speeches and sermons indicated how closely he had studied both profane and sacred writers, which, coupled with a chaste delivery, a thoughtful and a well digested form of speech gave him a claim to eminence in his profession and influence among the people of his charge. His piety and Christian demeanour are highly commended, and altogether he was a good sample of the Nonconformist ministers of the century.

MORGAN, WILLIAM, son of Rodpert ap John Morgan, was a descendant of the Morgans of Gwibernant in Carnarvonshire, but was himself born at Hereford in the year 1426. He left the Border-lands when young, and dwelt in Carnarvonshire in 1474, dying there, it is said, soon afterwards. A Catholic in name, he was traditionally a reformer in religion, but in what he differed from the general run of pious Romanists is not very clear, unless it be, that his "faith" was based more upon Christ, than

upon the "good works" which stood too often in Christ's stead as the accepted methods by which in those days justification from sin was to be secured. According to the traditions of his family "he prayed to Christ for pardon," and not to the Virgin, and it is a great honour to his name that his lineal descendant, William Morgan, the translator of the Bible into Welsh, in 1588, taught by pen and tongue the very faith by which he himself had hoped to be saved. The record of his worth and piety is none the less valuable because it happens to come down to us by tradition; in any case it is interesting, because it implies that even in those early days, some witnesses remained to the Welsh in proof of "that more excellent way," whereby men were to be saved from perdition. Evan Morgan, a canon of St. Asaph in the early part of the seventeenth century, derived from him, and so did John Ellis Morgan, of Penmachno, who lived there in the latter end of the eighteenth century.

MORGAN, WILLIAM, grandson, it is thought, of the celebrated Welsh Bishop of that name, who at one time presided over the see of Llandaff, and afterwards over that of St. Asaph, was born in Monmouthshire, educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, and became a fellow there. He was very much attached to the King's cause, and having become obnoxious to the republican party, he was rejected from his fellowship, and is believed to have died before the restoration.

MORGAN, SIR WILLIAM, was born at Pengoed Castle, Monmouthshire, and became a busy man of the world, as several of his ancestors had been before him. There is a tradition that he had been in the Naval service and had spent many years at sea, visiting divers foreign countries, but others say he was engaged in the merchant service, and so acquired considerable wealth. The latter opinion is so far supported by the fact that in 1574 he was at Bristol, then the great mart for merchandise, and that Queen Elizabeth knighted him there in that year. He died in 1584, and his niece Ann (who married a Sir John Morgan) succeeded to Pengoed and to his other landed estates.

MORGAN, WILLIAM, best known as "cosmographer to the king," was a native of Monmouthshire, and claimed kindred with the honourable family of that name, settled at Tredegar. He was great in the art of planning royal progresses, and a curious proof of this is given in a small quarto volume, published in 1685, and entitled "The King's Coronation: Being an Account of the Cavalcade, with a Description of the Triumphal Arches and Speeches prepared by the City of London for His late Majesty, Charles the Second."

MORRIS, GEORGE, a native of Shrewsbury, who devoted upwards of forty years of his life to the preparation of a genealogical history of Shropshire, is deserving of very honourable mention in these records. He was particularly skilled in the art of deciphering and translating ancient MSS., and so earnest in the pursuit of his studies that at his death in 1859 he left behind a collection of manuscripts extending to more than four thousand folio pages. Many of his local notes are enriched with heraldic drawings, and they are so well done, and so faithfully designed, that persons well qualified to express an opinion upon them have pronounced them perfect. Mr. Morris had purposed publishing a new history of his native county, but unhappily he died before he could carry out the resolution, but his papers are invaluable to any future historian of Shropshire who may have to study them.

MORRIS, JOSEPH, brother of the last named, was born at Shrewsbury in the year 1792. He gained for himself a great reputation as a writer and an antiquary. There are few local men who managed to secure so good a literary position as he did, for not only had he been a painstaking archaeologist, and an industrious collector all his life, but his connection with a well known Salopian newspaper brought him into direct communication with the leading men of the county, and, so to speak, made him an authority to which writers and others could apply for information. He compiled a large collection of MSS. volumes upon the pedigrees of the nobility and gentry of Shropshire and North Wales. It is remarkable that although both he and his brother took pleasure in the same pursuits, they differed wholly as to the plan upon which they worked, and hence the two local collections are distinct, and each complete, and almost always necessary helps to each other. He died in 1860.

OCTOBER 1, 1879.

NOTES.

FIRST "MEETING-HOUSE" IN OSWESTRY.

The following curious particulars of account for fitting up "Meeting-House" in Oswestry is preserved amongst the Old Chapel papers:—

Accompts of James Felton whatt hee Layd out for all sorts of Timber work & wagsis for ye repairing of meeting house	
July 29, 1715	payd yong' Willoughby Samuel Phillips, Mr. Barnett for Taking down ye pulpit & ye seats of new loft 0 3 0
	p'd John Edwards & his brother for carrying in ye stable 0 1 6
August 13	p'd John Hughes smyth for iron work 0 6 5
	p'd Mr. Phillips for 3 days work 0 4 0
	p'd Mr. Barnett for 3 days work 0 3 6
20	p'd Mr. Barnett for 6 days work 0 7 0
	p'd Mr. Phillips for 6 days work 0 8 0
	p'd Mr. Ridgway for 5 days work 0 7 6
	p'd Mr. Willoughby A new Lock stapels & Setting up ye dore 0 3 0
27	p'd david ye plasterer for 4 days work 0 3 0
	p'd Mr. Barnett for 6 days work 0 7 0
	p'd Mr. Phillips for 5 days work & halfe 0 7 6
	p'd Mr. Ridgway 6 days work 0 9 0
	p'd Mr. Barnett's daughter for sawyeing 0 0 3
30	p'd Mr. Jenkin Evans widow for Altring.....2 new... .. 0 7 6
	p'd for 3 Loads of Lime 0 1 9
September 6	p'd Thomas Turner for Glazin' ye windows 0 4 6
10	p'd david ye plasterer for 6 days work 0 5 6
	p'd Mr. Ridgway for 11 days work 0 16 6
17	p'd Mr. Ridgway for 4 days work 0 6 0
	p'd Mr. Willoughby for iron work hings & nayles.. .. 0 9 0
	p'd Margrett Williams for boards 0 2 3
	p'd Thomas Edwards for nayles 0 7 5
	p'd M's Mary Edwards for nayles 0 6 4
	p'd Robart Mathews for Boards 0 8 10
	p'd Jane Pritchard for Boards 0 4 0
21	p'd David ye plasterer for 3 days & half work 0 2 9
	p'd Thomas Turner for Glazing 0 16 5
	p'd Edward Edwards for Glazing 0 13 0
22	p'd Mr. Nathaniel Edwards for his journey to Sallop & chargis 1 8 6
23	p'd John Burgis for A peece of timber 0 1 6
30	p'd John Owen for Bricks 0 1 9
	p'd John Vaughan for A peece of Timber 0 1 0
	p'd Thomas Turner for Glazin' 0 4 9
	p'd Edward Edwards for Glazin' 0 4 4
	p'd Mr. Richard Thomas for Timber and bords 1 10 0
October 3	p'd Mr. Edward Rogers for bords and other things 0 18 0
	p'd Thomas Willoughby for work & nayles to ye window hing's 0 1 6

November Edward Roberts for Alle ye Constables had for Tending the house ..	0	3	4
Mrs. Lus'd Jones for A Table mending of itt ..	0	7	8
for a small stole [stool] in ye pulpitt ..	0	1	0
for Simon Roberts his Caring & Tending ye work att ye house ..	0		
paid Mr. Edward Kinaston by Mr. Nathaniel Edwards order from London the sum of ..	3	2	8
att ye Returning of ye Tenants ord'r to us & finding out ye seat yt was in Church spent ..	0	1	8
for interest to Mrs. Evans for halfe A year for 50£ ..	1	5	0
for interest of 50£ of Mr. James Owen since November	1	5	0

March 25th, 1716 this account was alowed by ye congregation Mr. felton discharginge ye interest accruing at May [next] 20 0 0

The building in question was that now known as the Butchers' Arms, at the junction of Willow-street and "Street Arthur." It was first used by the Oswestry Nonconformists in 1692, when they removed from Sweeney, and was purchased by them in 1715.

JARCO.

QUERIES.

MATTERLESS.—This is a Salopian word not noticed by Mr. Hartshorne, and so far, of course, not recorded by Miss Jackson, whose first instalment only reaches the letter D. It is used of persons who have lost interest in what surrounds them. "Since her's lost her son her's gone quite matterless." It is a word rarely used now-a-days, I fancy, and if it should be new to Miss Jackson it would be well if some of your readers would intimate if it is familiar to them, and in what locality?

M.R.

REPLIES.

CLAWDD LLESG (Sept. 10, 1879).—If it were a question of the change of the identical word 'Eliseg' into Llesg, and not one of the *substitution*, under circumstances the most simple and natural, of a *similar* word, "R.W.'s" objection on the score of philology would be of force. But in reply to his invitation I will give my reasons for holding "Clawdd Eliseg" to be the original form of the name. In the first place, it is not, even in popular parlance, the well that gives its name to the dyke, but the dyke to the well; it is not "Clawdd y Ffynnon Llesg," or "Clawdd Ffynnon y Llesg," the Dyke of the Well of the Infirm; but "Ffynnon y Clawdd Llesg," the Well near the Infirm Dyke, or Dyke of the Infirm: so that, in any case, the Dyke must have been of note before the well came into repute. In the next place, the Dyke was a tolerably formidable earthwork cutting right across the dingle that gave access, between Moel y Sant in Trefedrif and Broniarth Hill, towards Mathraval; and just as some of the strong defences in the neighbourhood are named after their constructors, so we might expect in this case. Thus, the very strong Dyke above Ystymcolwyn goes by the name of "Clawdd Offa;" and the Pass over the hill at the back of Clawdd Llesg is called "Bwlch Aeddan." And just as in *Aeddan* we have one of the Early Princes of Powys commemorated, and in *Llanerch-Frochael* adjoining it on the other side another, so I maintain we have in Clawdd Llesg a third, *Eliseg*, who raised this dyke for the defence of the approaches to the Castle at Mathraval. But after a while, when the healing properties of the well became known and the infirm—"Llesg"—resorted to it from all quarters, the Dyke became more identified in the popular mind with the "Llesg" who came to be cured than with the "Eliseg" who had constructed it, and so the name "Clawdd Llesg"

gradually got substituted for that of "Clawdd Eliseg." This of course was the more easy seeing that the accent was laid not on the first syllable "El," but on the second; so that it was merely a change from Clawdd 'Liseg to Clawdd Llesg; and as to the objection against a change from the soft to the hard sound, it may suffice to say that there are no root words beginning with a single "L" in the Welsh language. D.R.T.

CURRENT NOTES.

At a conference of librarians at Manchester last week, in an interesting paper on special collections of books in Lancashire and Cheshire, Mr. J. H. Nodal mentioned Mr. Salisbury's collection of works connected with the history of Wales and the border counties, which extends to about 18,000 volumes, and which Mr. Salisbury has been thirty years in collecting.

A contemporary says—"Within a mile of Cefnybedd, on the Wrexham, Mold, and Connah's Quay Railway, a discovery has been made which, in all probability, will result in opening up a new branch of industry in that part of the Principality. At Cymmau there is practically an unlimited quantity of rock which, on being burnt, produces a sand that is said to be invaluable for the finest glass-making purposes. Steps have been taken for producing this sand on a large scale."

The Rev. W. Jones Thomas writes from Llan Thomas, Hay, Breconshire, Sept. 24—"There was buried on Thursday, Sept. 18, in Talgarth Churchyard, in this county, a man named William Beevan, at the very advanced age of 105. This case of longevity is well authenticated. I enclose the certificate of baptism from the vicar of Glasbury, Radnorshire. He was never known to have received medical aid, and when, some years since, after he had reached the patriarchal age of 100, his friends thought it right to summon a medical man for some trifling ailment, Beevan, becoming aware of this, concealed himself in a closet until the surgeon had left."

THE WELSH LIBRARY OF THE LATE REV.

ROBERT JONES, ROTHERHITHE.

An error occurred in the paragraph which appeared, Sept. 24, as to the number of volumes, which should be 87 folios, 212 quartos, and over 1,900 octavos, making a total of over 2,200 volumes. The following list comprises a random selection of some of the rare copies in the same:—*Lelandi Assertio inculatissima Arturii Regis Brit.*, 1544; *Lelandi Cygnea Cantio*, &c., 1525; *Lelandi Genethlacon Eduerdi Princip. Cambriae*, 1543; *Sir J. Prysei Historiæ Brytannicæ*, 1573; *Dr. J. Davies's Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ*, three copies, Ed. 1621 and 1632; *Han's Autograph of "Sam Hinton, Shrewsbury, May 21, 1636,"* Bishop Rd. Davies's Funeral Sermon on Walter Earle of Essex and Ewe with *Epitaphium Genealogicum*, black letter, woodcuts of arms, 1577. Extremely rare, evidently never seen by Lowndes, who describes the epitaphium as a separate work, although on reverse of last page is printed "Here followeth the Funeral Sermon," &c. Sir Mark Sykes's copy sold for £5 7s. 6d. *Welsh Common Prayer Books*, printed at Shrewsbury by Thomas Jones, 1700, having Edmund Pry's Psalms and the 39 Articles in Welsh, being the first Welsh edition of the 39 articles. Excessively rare. F. Roseti's *Mauris*; woodcut on title. An excessively rare and exquisite poem on the life of St. Ursula, the daughter of a British Prince, was murdered at Cologne about the year 383 with her virgin attendants; a copy of this sold for £7 10s. 0d. in 1824. R. Armin's *Valiant Welshman*, 1663; scarce. *Galfridi Monemutensis Britannia de vita Merlin*. Paris, 1517; scarce. The Book

of Homilies, translated into Welsh by E. James, 1606. The first edition in black letter. Two copies (excessively rare). The authorities of the British Museum Library purchased a copy a few months ago, which I introduced to their notice, paying about £10 for it; Camden's *Britannia*, and *Remains*, several copies, early dates, and various; Powell *Strema Vavasoriensis*, a New Year's gift for the Welsh Itinerants, or a Hue and Cry after Mr. Vavasour Powell, by A. Griffiths, 1654 (very scarce); Piser Hir, a manuscript unpublished collection of Welsh poetry, by poets flourishing between 1360 and 1757, from ancient writing by the Rev. D. Ellis, 1784, with notes by Iolo Morganwg and Dafydd Ddu Eryri; Llyfr Talhaiarn, another MS. Book of Poetry, bought at Archdeacon Newcome's sale in 1851. Dr. J. D. Rhys's *Institutes of Welsh*, 1592 (extremely rare). This copy has various autographs, including "Ed. Thelwall ex dono Ivannis Williams de Llanvair, August 29, 1592," Thomas Ellis 1739, who presented it to Goronwy Owen, 24 June, 1754, Sir John Davies. It also was undoubtedly in the possession of William Middleton, the celebrated author of the Welsh Psalms, as appears by "A Proest" signed by him. A manuscript note by the Rev. J. Jones states that this volume was sold in a sale by Messrs. Sotheby in 1825 for £7 2s. 6d. Allwydd neu Agoriad Paradwys i'r Cymru gan I.H. (Romish Prayer Book in Welsh 1670, very rare). Printed at Liege, being also the first book printed there; Griffith Roberts's *Welsh Grammar*, with folding title, 1567 (excessively rare); Dad Seiniad Meibion y Daran, being a second impression of Bishop Juel's *Apologie*, and of Bishop Davies's *Epistle* in the *Britische Tongue*, black letter, 1671 (very scarce); Charles Edwards's *Fatherly Instructions from Primitive Christian Teachers*, with an appendix entitled *Gildas Minimus* and *An afflicted Man's Testimony concerning his troubles* (his own autobiography), excessively rare, 1686-91; Rev. R. Jones's *Tour in Wales*, autograph manuscript.

T. W. HANCOCK.

OCTOBER 8, 1879.

NOTES.

MOCHNANT, &c.—It was a pity that time did not allow discussion of Mr. Picton's able and interesting paper on "Place Names" at the late Archaeological meeting at Welshpool. Mr. Picton was understood to say that *Llan* was exclusively used as a prefix to the names of *British* saints in the formation of place-names. This, however, is not correct, and I need only refer to such names as *Llanfair*, *Llanbedr*, *Llanfihangel*—all of them churches dedicated to saints other than *British*—to prove that the contrary is the case. But worse than all, Mr. Picton gave us in all seriousness the interpretation of MOCHNANT as "the swine valley or brook"! That such is the vulgar rendering of the word is well known—just as *Castell Brân* is translated "Crow Castle," *Machynlleth* "pigs in the milk," &c.—but such etymology was hardly to be expected from such a quarter, and before a company of archaeologists. The fact is, quantity is never sacrificed in the formation of Welsh place-names. This word, therefore, would have been *Nantymôch*, not *Môchnant*, had it been intended to signify "swine valley." Dr. Owen Pughe defines *Mochnant* as "a swift brook, or torrent." The word "môch," although now obsolete, is quite familiar to readers of *Gwalchmai* and the other mediæval Welsh poets.

R.W.

[See *Bye-gones*, Nov. 7, 21, 1877, for some notes on the name "Machynlleth," by the late Rev. Dr. James and Canon Williams.—Ed.]

QUERIES.

SHIPPRIS.—I have just seen a paper announcing a sale to take place this autumn in a certain locality in South Wales, in which the crop is stated to consist of—"35 mows of wheat, 50 ditto of barley and *shippris*, 40 ditto of oats," &c. I believe that by "shippris" is intended mixed corn, or barley and oats sown promiscuously together. I am anxious to ascertain the derivation of the word. Is it anywhere used out of Wales? I.G.D.

A MARTYR OF NORTH WALES.—Bishop Challoner, in his 'Memoirs of Missionary Priests,' states that the Rev. Edward Jones, born in North Wales, in the diocese of St. Asaph, with the Rev. Anthony Middleton, both priests of Douay College, were apprehended by priest-catchers, who had feigned themselves Catholics; and that they were hanged up, without any formal trial, before the doors of the houses where they were taken, Mr. Jones in Fleet Street, near the Conduit; Mr. Middleton at Clerkenwell, on the 6th May, 1590, in testimony of their adherence to the ancient Catholic Faith of the country. The latter is stated, on the testimony of eye-witnesses, to have been "cut down and bowelled, whilst he was yet alive;" nor is there any reason to suppose, though not expressly stated, that this was not also the fate of Mr. Jones. That such was the fact is confirmed by the notice in the *Douai Diaries* (Nutt, London, 1878) of the date of 17th June in that year, "Rodem die ex Angliâ ad nos venerunt sex, vz., Cuthbertus Trowlop" (&c. whose names are given). "Ex corum sermone intelleximus, Londini pro constante fidei confessione tanquam læsæ majestatis reos, ea legum Angliæ iniquitas est, capitis supplicio affectos et in crucem, non ita multo ante illorum ad nos adventum, actos fuisse D. Antonium Middletonum et D. Edouardum Jones, presbyteros." Is anything known of the parentage or birthplace of the Rev. Edward Jones? H.W.L.

REPLIES.

COELBREN Y BEIRDD (Sep. 10, 1879).—NEMO will find the genuineness and authenticity of this alleged Bardic alphabet advocated in a Welsh Essay entitled "Traethawd ar Hynafiaeth ac Awdurdodaeth Coelbren y Beirdd, Gan Taliesin Williams [Ab Iolo], Llanymddyfri, 1840." And, in the volume of *Archæologia Cambrensis* for 1872, "An Essay on the Bardic Alphabet, called Coelbren y Beirdd," by the late Mr. Thomas Stephens of Merthyr Tydvil, at the end of which he embodies the results of his enquiry in the following propositions:—

1. "That Coelbren y Beirdd has no pretensions to a high antiquity, and is neither found on sculptured stones, nor in old MSS.

2. "That it was invented in the beginning of the fifteenth century, when paper and parchment were forbidden to the Cymry, and that the inventor was in all probability the Bard Gwilym Tew.

3. "That it was not an original alphabet, except in respect of derivations, but an imitation of the Roman letters.

4. "That it was in common use in the fifteenth century, as is shown by the poems of the bards, and that by the end of the sixteenth it had all but ceased to be known."

I am not prepared to maintain the soundness in its entirety of Mr. Stephens' argument that the Coelbren had no earlier existence than the 15th century. The alphabet of Nemnivus (which Hickes copied from a Bodleian MS. of the 9th century) is said to have been invented by him because the Britons were twitted by a Saxon scholar with having no alphabet of their own. "Nemnivus istas reperit

literas vituperante quodam scolastico Saxonici generis, quia Brittones non habere rudimentum; et ipse ex machinatione mentis sue formavit eas ut vituperationem et hebetudinem deiceret gentis sue." The Rev. D. Haig, (Anglo-Saxon Conquest, p. 50) argues that this alphabet is not British at all, from its containing the letters k (?), q, x, z, which are not in the Coelbren. But Nemnivus may have had his reasons for adding these letters, known to the Saxon, which his countrymen, having no use for, would have subsequently dropped. Mr. Stephens (p. 191, note) admits the British origin of the alphabet, and also the resemblance of its letters in form, though not in signification, to those of the Coelbren. Many of them have a decided similarity to Runes. The *Peithynen*, or wooden frame, may or may not have been coeval with the alphabet cut upon it.

H.W.L.

EVANS THE CONJUROR (Sep. 10, 1879).—Your correspondent "H.B." has referred to Ashmole as the authority for saying that this notorious Welshman was known as "Arise Evans," but he has not given you the interesting entry quoted from Ashmole by the writer in the *Arch: Camb.*, which is as follows:—"April 20 (1653). This morning I first became acquainted with Arise Evans, a Welsh prophet, and speaking of the Parliament, I asked him when it would end. He answered, the time was short, and it was even at the door. This very morning, at eleven of the clock, the mace was taken away from the Speaker, and the Parliament dissolved; and I conjecture it was much about the time that Arise Evans and I had this discourse." M.C.A.S.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR AND "Y DRYCH CHRISTIANOAWL."

(Sep. 24, 1879).

Some years ago an imperfect copy of "Y Drych Christianogawl" passed through my hands. The title was altogether wanting, but it had been supplied in MS., whether accurately or not I have no means to ascertain. The imprint thus supplied is as follows:—"Rhotmagi apud heredes Jathroi Faronis. 1585." If this is correct "Y Drych" was printed not at Milan, but at Rouen; and the fact that the editor R.S. (= Roger Smith?) dates his preface "O Dref Roan," points in the same direction. The title pages of the Grammar and the "Drych" may have the same device, which in the case of the former is a crown; but here the agreement ends; for while the Grammar from beginning to end is in the *Italic character*, the "Drych," with some trifling exceptions, is printed in *black letter*. A good account of the "Drych" (so far as the imperfect copy alluded to enabled the writer of the article to do so) will be found in the *Traethodydd* for 1872, p. 91; and a short notice of it appears in the "Supplement to *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*" in the *Revue Celtique*, i., 377. I am indebted to "W." for the information that a copy of this rare book is preserved in the British Museum; and I am glad to find from his note that the "Drych" corroborates Dr. John David Rhys's statement that the Grammar was printed at Milan in Italy. D.S.E.

Mr. Joseph, F.S.A., of Brecon, has sent us for inspection a copy of the first part of G. Roberts's Welsh Grammar, of which 78 out of the 92 pages are perfect, the rest being carefully supplied in MS. It will be unnecessary closely to describe the copy, but we may remark that some of the printed pages look as if they were "revised proofs" from the "printer's reader's" hand. For instance, on page 9, the passage commencing three lines from the top runs thus:—"Gr. Pedair, a, rhain a elwir pedair colofn Gramadeg, Iawnserfenyddiaeth, Cyfiachydiaeth, Tonydiaeth." In the margin is written "Cystrawiaeth (syn-

tax)," to be inserted before "Torydiaeth." On the margin of page 22, running alongside the first few lines headed "Gwahaniad rhwng y llythyrennau cap. 4" is written "Brawddeg Angenrheidiol i fod ynghylch dechreuad y Grammadeg." ("This paragraph ought to have been about the beginning of the Grammar"), and on page 24 there is a marginal correction to the word "dyphddoniad;" a "g" being marked to go in between the "n" and the "i." Mr. W. W. E. Wynne and Mr. Silvan Evans will be able to see whether these corrections have been made in the copies (perfect and imperfect) now in their possession. If they should be, then Mr. Joseph's copy must be a "proof sheet."

Again on page 66, the corrector suggests "Ymsang" as a better word than "Dieithrsang" (in the text) to express a parenthesis: and on page 48 he says a Table at the beginning of the book (not in the copy at the present time) ought to have been placed on that page. On page 71 there is another correction. The text has it "rhoi, tros rhodi; cael, tros caphael." Written in the margin is "rhoi tros rhoddi; cael yn lle caffael." Lastly, as to corrections, on page 25 (on which there is a table of diphthongs), the letters that are crooked are marked, in red ink, as a "printer's reader" would mark them if he wished them put straight.

There are several names of owners written on various pages of the book. From these we extract the following:—

Owen Bynner his hand anno domini 1635

Robert Lloyd his book so sath Owen Bynn meis . . . medd . . (portion obliterated).

Robert Edwards sydd eiddo y llyfr hwnn 1674

Robert Edwards April 21, 1683

John Roderick his Book 1726

John Rhydderch yw Perchenog y llyfr hwnn 1727

Gweithiais llafuriais oll friwad angrwm

YnGrammer Fy Hendad,

Gwelwch na bum o'm galwad

Bwyth yn gloff heb iaith ein gwlad.—J.R.

Joshua Thomas's book given him by Jno. David, Montgomeryshire, 1748.

Thomas Phillips his book the gift of Mr. J. Thomas 1772.

John Evans's book 1807

John Evans's book 1808

From the Rev. John Evans, High Street, Brecon, the book came into the possession of Mr. Joseph in 1857.

In connection with the above list, it is not unreasonable to presume that John Roderick and John Rhydderch are one and the same man, and identical with John Rogers, the bookseller, of Shrewsbury, of whom there have been two or three notices in *Bye-gones*. EDITOR.

THE SPECTRE ON YR EIFL.

(Sep. 27, 1879).

The interesting account by "O.M.F." of his experiences on The Rivals, reminds me of an old Oswestry spectre, that puzzled many and frightened more, five and thirty years ago. In those days there was a little more of the ruined wall of the old Castle at the top of the Castle Bank, and below there was a gas lamp in the centre of the Pitcher-Bank. It so happened that one very dark night two or three of us went up the bank to watch a distant fire. I was the first of the party to arrive at the top, when suddenly, stood before me a figure that seemed to rise out of the darkness! I moved, and it moved, and my companions arriving, the figure was joined by others; and we discovered that they were but our shadows, cast on the ruined wall by the gas light below. We tried some experiments, and arranged a little plan whereby we could

lead other folks up the bank by another path, and astonish them with spectres not of their own creating. It was, of course, only on very dark nights that the phenomenon could be witnessed; but our ghost was as popular as Pepper's for one winter. R.

I remember seeing once from the top of Snowdon the whole of Carnarvonshire, and, as far as the eye could see, covered with a perfectly level floor of pure white mist, which reached the height of some 2,500 feet. Above that height there was brilliant sunlight, and every peak which passed that line rose clear and grand into the upper air, but cut off at the base by a level plane of vapour entirely quiescent, and seeming to the eye as solid as the rock on which we stood. Soon the vapours began to break up and to gather into masses, and then we saw "the spectre of the Brocken" on a Welsh mountain, with a perfection which the Brocken itself could not surpass. Happening to turn round, we were startled by seeing two gigantic forms projected on a distant wall of mist. They seemed to be human forms where no human form could be. But we quickly noted that they moved as we moved, and repeated all our gestures; and we found that, as often happens in many ways, we had been startled by the shadow of ourselves. Once, too, from the Wengern Alp I saw the whole valley of Lauterbrunnen filled with vapour to the height apparently of some 3,000 or 4,000 feet, while the Jungfrau lifted her silver horn cloudless in the clear upper sky. But in that case the vapour was storm cloud and was grim and angry, and we could see lightning flashing and hear thunder rolling in the depths below. And when I was last on the Rigi—which, alas! has now become like Hampstead Heath on a Bank Holiday, a place of brawling traffic and vulgar sports—I saw nothing but an even floor of pure white mist over the whole of Switzerland, reaching almost as high as the Rigi Culm, out of which the loftier mountains emerged, some with black and frowning, some with snow-clad summits; a vast mountain panorama, with no trace anywhere of the world to which it belonged below. B.B.

In *Christian World*, Oct. 9.

CURRENT NOTES.

MEETING OF THE POWYS-LAND CLUB.

The members of the Powys-Land Club held their annual meeting on Thursday, when Lord Powis was, as usual, in the chair. The HONORARY SECRETARY, who is the life and soul of the Club, presented a most satisfactory report, in which the Committee were able to recommend that £200 should be invested as the nucleus of a Repair Fund for the Museum. In the course of the discussion which followed the VICAR OF MELFOD made two valuable suggestions. Referring to the Library of the late Rev. ROBERT JONES, he expressed a hope that Mr. MORRIS JONES might be able to secure it for the Powys-Land Club, as a memento of a Montgomeryshire man, and a useful collection for Montgomeryshire archaeologists. In bringing forward the second suggestion, Mr. THOMAS made mention of a letter on the subject which appeared in these columns last week. It would be a good thing, he said, if the parochial histories which appeared from time to time in the Montgomeryshire Collections were separately printed and sold to the inhabitants of the various parishes whose history was related. The Committee, no doubt, will take Mr. THOMAS's proposal into consideration. It seems to us that the publication he advocates would increase the usefulness and popularity of the Club.—*Oswestry Advertiser*.

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The *Chester Chronicle* has recently published a list, compiled by the Town Clerk of Flint, of the county and borough members for Flintshire since the year 1547. It is a remarkable feature of the list that it begins with a Mostyn and that from the year 1708 to 1859 a Mostyn of Mostyn represented Flintshire continuously with only one or two very brief exceptions, when the Glynnnes of Hawarden took their place. On the other hand the name of the Pennants of Downing, is conspicuous for its entire absence from the list both for the county and boroughs.

In a paper on "Wynnstay" in *Social Notes* for Sept. 27, much of which is identical with what has already appeared in *Wynnstay and the Wynns*, the writer says that there is an organ in the great hall which Handel himself has played upon. Also that the lectern, in the Chapel, "is a quaint oaken statue of St. Christopher, bearing nets, a desk, and a big Bible on his bent back, with an oak chin and beard thrust out in front. A chaplain mistook this quaint but saintly figure for the rugged representation of some heathen personage, and had to be inducted into the desk with some slight approaches to coercion."

OCTOBER 15, 1879.

NOTES.

ENORMOUS GOOSEBERRIES.—We usually associate big gooseberries with the silly season of newspapers; but our forefathers seem to have made quite a business in growing and exhibiting them. In 1833 Mr. W. Parry at a Shrewsbury show exhibited a berry weighing 19 dwts. 3 grs. At the "Oswestry Gooseberry Show," July 26, of the same year, Mr. Morgan had on view berries weighing as much as 20 dwts. 4 grs. One of his was called "Oswestry Hero;" but it was a comparatively small white variety, for it only weighed 14 dwts. 2 grs. Mr. Pugh exhibited "Proud Salopian," and amongst the exhibitors were Messrs. Holt and S. Jarratt. Of course Mr. Morgan was the well-known Oswestry Florist, Mr. Abraham Morgan, hairdresser, whose portrait for so many years hung over the fireplace in the Queen's Head smoking room. He was a successful grower and producer of flowers; and his "King of the Dahlias" for some years held its place in the catalogues. JARCO.

QUERIES.

MAENATTYN.—On the farm called Llwynycil, near Chirk, there is a field bearing this name, attached to which there is a tradition, but the version of it I have heard is a very hazy one. It is that, at the period when crossing the Dyke was a perilous undertaking, the Welsh were one day surprised by the English, on which the cry of "Maenattyn" arose, whereupon "stones" were thrown "at 'em" by the Welsh and the English fled! Will some reader, who knows, give us a clearer version than this?

Tom.

PRINTING IN WALES.—Mr. W. H. Allnutt, assistant librarian in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, a name not unfamiliar to many readers of *Bye-Gones*, has lately published "Notes on Printers and Printing in the Provincial Towns of England and Wales," with an appendix consisting of a "Table of Places in England and Wales," in which printing was carried on before the beginning of the present century. The following is the result so far as Wales (including Monmouthshire) is concerned. Mr. Allnutt gives the names of towns in alphabetical order, with the date of the earliest known press in each, the name of the printer, the title of the work

printed, and the authorities on which the statements are made. According to this list, which, so far as it relates to the Principality, is based almost entirely on *Llyfryddiaeth y Cymry*, and papers contributed by the editor of that work to the *Revue Celtique*, the following places had presses set up in them before the end of the eighteenth century. The places are here given in the alphabetical order of the counties in which they are situated, and not (as in Mr. Allnutt's table) of the places themselves. Where a note of interrogation (?) follows a given date, it denotes that the year is not quite certain, the book supposed to have been printed that year being dateless.

Anglesey:—Bodedern, 1734.
Breconshire:—Trevecca, 1766; Brecon, 1772.
Cardiganshire:—Trefhedyn, 1719.
Carmarthenshire:—Carmarthen, 1723 (?); Llandovery, 1764.
Carnarvonshire:—Trefriw, 1776; Carnarvon, 1797.
Denbighshire:—Wrexham, 1745.
Flintshire:—Holywell, 1798.
Glamorganshire:—Cowbridge, 1770; Swansea, 1781 (?).
Merionethshire:—Bala, 1748 (?); Dolgelly, 1799.
Monmouthshire:—Pontypool, 1740; Monmouth, 1793; Newport, 1799.
Montgomeryshire:—Machynlleth, 1787.
Pembrokeshire:—Haverfordwest, 1798.

By this list it appears that *nineteen* places in the Principality had presses set up in them before the end of last century; that Cardiganshire was the foremost county in the race; and that the only county out of the thirteen which neither had, nor had had, a press up to that date, was Radnorshire, the most English then as now of all the Welsh counties—a fact not unworthy of the consideration of the *Times*.

At the present day there is hardly a town, however insignificant, but that can boast of a press, and most of them have more than one. It would be interesting to know the number of presses now existing in Wales, and the date at which printing was commenced in each town not given in the preceding account. DYVNIG.

[Mr. Allnutt has favoured us with notes on this subject concerning a few Welsh towns, and we hope he will some day return to the subject. So far the queries he has put have not elicited so many replies as we would have wished.—ED.]

REPLIES.

SIR WILLIAM MAURICE OF CLENENNEY.
(Sep. 17, 1879.)

"Wilhelmus natus 1559." He is generally styled "Wm. Wynn Maurice," and married Mary, dau. of John Lewis of Chwaen, in Anglesey, Esq. She was born in 1555. He died before his father, leaving issue. His wife survived him.

"Ellis junior nat. 1568." Captain Ellis Maurice, party to a deed 15 Sept. 41 Eliz., embarked from Chester in 1600, with a company under his command, to join the Queen's army in Ireland. He married Jane, one of the daughters of Sir Wm. Mering, Knt., of Mering, co. Notts., and left issue. She was living upon 23 Augt., 1609.

"John nat. 1569." He married Elizabeth, daughter of John ap Richard of Gwynvryn, and left issue. She was living, his widow, upon 1 Sept. 4 James I.

"Gwenhwyfar alias gaynor, 1570." She was married to Sir Wm. Thomas of Llangathen, co. of Carmarthen, and Aber, co. of Carnarvon, Knt., sheriff of the latter county in 1608.

"Uxor obiit 1571." She was Margaret, daughter and heiress of John Wynn Lacon of Porkington, in Shropshire, and Llanddyn, in the Vale of Llangollen. She left issue. There is a portrait of her at Brogyntyn.

"Ellis moris, ar., obiit 1571." He was grandfather to Sir Wm. Maurice, married first Catherine, dau. of Piers Stanley, Esq., who was sheriff of Merionethshire from 1485 to 1509—he held the office for life—and secondly Janet, daughter of Sir James ap Owen of Pentre Evan, in the county of Pembroke, Knt., and left issue by both wives. "Ellis Moris" (Ellis ap Maurice) was sheriff of Merionethshire in 1540.

"Gaynor moris, soror, 1572." She was wife of Robert Sontley of Sontley, co. of Denbigh.

"Jane moris, soror, 1573." She was wife of Thomas Owen of Plas du, co. of Carnarvon, and mother of John Owen, the Epigrammatist.

"Morris Ellis, pater, 1575." Maurice ap Ellis ap Maurice, father of Sir William. He married Ellen, dau. of Sir John Puleston, Knt., Chamberlain of North Wales and Constable of the Castle of Carnarvon.

"Secund. nupt., 1575." Sir William's 2nd wife was Ellin, relict of John Lewis, Esq., of Chwaen, in Anglesey, and daughter of Hugh ap Llewelyn of Bodowir, in the same county.

"Elin Puleston, 1577." See above.

"Domina bagenall, 1578." She was Ellin, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Edward Griffith, Esq., of Penrhyn, co. of Carnarvon, now Penrhyn Castle, by Jane, dau. of Sir John Puleston, Knt., above. She was consequently first-cousin to Sir Wm. Maurice, and aunt to his third wife. Her husband was Sir Nicholas Bagnall of Newry, Knight Marshal of Ireland.

"Elin William filia, 1578." She was eldest daughter of William, Sir William Maurice's eldest son, above, and was heiress of Porkington, Clenenney, and Llanddyn. She was twice married. First to John Owen, who was Secretary to the Queen's Minister, Sir Francis Walsingham, and a younger son of Owen ap Robert of Bodsilin, co. of Carnarvon. John Owen was buried at Whittington, 20 March, 1611-12. Her second husband was the Hon. Sir Francis Eure, Chief Justice of the North Wales Circuit, a son of William, Lord Eure. She had issue by both marriages. There is a portrait of her at Brogyntyn. She was foundress of the Alms Houses in Willow-street, Oswestry, died in 1626, and is buried at Selattyn.

"Elissa (Ellis) ap Robt. Wynn, nat. 1577." Ellis, son and successor of Robert Wynn Brynkir of Brynkir, co. of Carnarvon, by Ann, sister of Sir Wm. Maurice. He was sheriff of Carnarvonshire in 1624, and died in 1628.

"William ap Robert ap Elissa, 1579." Brother to Elissa above.* He graduated as B.D., married Murian, daughter of Hugh Hughes of Plas coch, in Anglesey, and had a son, John.

"Nupt. 3, 1605." The third wife of Sir Wm. Maurice was his first cousin, relict of Sir Thomas Johnes of Abermarlais, in the county of Carmarthen, Knt., and daughter and heir of Rowland Puleston of Carnarvon, Esq.

KEY TO SIR WM. MAURICE'S CIPHER.

a.	1. 9.	n.	7. d. s.
b.		o.	2. 4. u. m. 9.
c.	6.	p.	6. 5.
d.	7.	q.	
e.	2.	r.	
f.	5.	s.	n.
g.		t.	2.
h.	9. 4. i.	u.	6. 5.
i.	3. 4.	w.	
k.		x.	
l.		y.	3.
m.	10. 7. 1.	z.	

W.

* See *History of the Gwydir Family*, Edition of 1878, page 97.

MILTON'S WIDOW (Feb. 12, 1879).—In reply to R. ROSSE TEWK, B.A., I copy the following from *Non-conformity in Cheshire*, p. 117; "Milton was connected with Nantwich by the marriage with his third wife, Elizabeth Mynshul, a native of the neighbourhood. The proverbial stories of her harshness are in great part if not altogether fabulous. She died at Nantwich, in March 1726-7, aged 87 years, having resided as a widow nearly forty years in the town. She was of the Baptist persuasion, and appointed Mr. Samuel Acton, the Baptist minister at Nantwich, one of the executors of her will. Her remains, as tradition says (there being no record of her death or burial), were interred in the graveyard of the Baptist Chapel. Active steps, we are informed, are about to be taken for ascertaining the fact, by search, if possible." The book I quote was published in 1864: perhaps some reader of this may be able to say if the search was ever made, and its result.

WREXHAMITE.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES. (Sept. 24, 1879.)

MORTIMER, ANNE, born in Herefordshire, was daughter of Roger Mortimer, who was killed in Ireland 1398. She married Richard, Earl of Cambridge, son of Edmund, Duke of York, and grandson to Edward the Third. As the mother of Richard Plantagenet, who was slain at the battle of Wakefield in 1460, she has acquired historical fame, for her grandson Edward (son of Richard) was the first of the York line proper who came to the Crown of England, as Edward the Fourth, and subsequently Richard the Second, also her grandson, did the same. She was the last of her race through whom the Mortimers may be said to have aspired to the Crown, for Hall states that the Earl of Cambridge had married her, in the expectation of securing the inheritance of the kingdom to his heirs in the event of Edmund Mortimer's decease without issue. It is known how Henry the Sixth disposed of the Earl of March, and the student of history will be able to trace the manner in which Anne Mortimer's descendants came eventually to power, and so down to the time when Elizabeth of York married Henry the Seventh, and ended thereby the bloody feuds which had desolated the land for so many years, and eventually enabled Henry the Eighth to establish his descent from all the claimants to the Crown, inclusive of the Mortimers.

MORTIMER, EDMUND, great grandson to Roger Mortimer, paramour of Queen Isabella, was born in Shropshire in the year 1352, and succeeded to the regained title of the Earl of March on the death of his father. He married Philippa, daughter of the Duke of Clarence, and so became, in a sense, claimant to the Crown. A great man he certainly was, and it can always be said to his honour that he worthily supported his high rank, and secured for himself and his house, by his splendid services in France and in Ireland, not only a proud distinction, but the cordial support of some of the noblest families in the land. Alas that he should have died young, for in 1381 the arch-enemy overcame him on the field of battle, and he was slain before attaining his thirtieth birth day. We are told in history that "he transmitted the *rightful claim* to the Crown of England to his descendants." Hotspur evidently thought so, for in his accusations against Henry the fourth he says:—"Also we do allege, saie and entende to prove that thou at that tyme when our Sovereign lord, and thynne, Kyng Richarde was so by that horrible murder ded, thou by extorte power diddest usurpe and take the Kyngdome of Engelande, and the name and honour of the Kyngdome of Fraunce unjustly and wrongfully contrary to thine othe, from Edmund Mortimer Earl of Marche, and

of Ulster, then next and direct heire immediately in due course of inheritance after the deceasse of the foresaid Richard. *Wherefore* thou art perjured and false." When the trial of battle came, the gallant Hotspur was killed, and it will presently be seen how the "rightful" heir—another Edmund—acted by the son and successor of the "perjured and false" Henry Bolingbroke.

MORTIMER, EDMUND, best known as the "Young Earl of March," was born in Herefordshire about 1392. He was closely allied to the Plantagenets through the marriage of his grandfather to a daughter of the Duke of Clarence, his descent through other lines being also illustrious, the first of his family in England being the Roger Mortimer, whose mother was niece to the wife of Richard, Duke of Normandy, a family from his time downward who had adhered loyally to the Crown. Before the "Young Earl," however, had been born, some members of his house had been looked up to as the rightful heirs to the throne, and he, who was the heir, might have had a chance of gaining it, had not the fortune of war carried him captive, when a child, into the hands of Henry the fourth, who was wise enough to hold him in durance vile, until death in 1413 put an end to his own life. When that astute monarch died, his son, brave Harry of Monmouth, succeeded to the crown, "not a single voice being raised in favour of the Earl of March." It is highly honourable to the Earl, then a young man of twenty-one, that he made no show of resistance to this arrangement, and when the young king proposed to march against the French, we find Edmund Mortimer offering to join him, and to carry arms in his defence. The Earl of Cambridge, who had married his sister, promoted a conspiracy to dethrone the king, and to proclaim March as the rightful sovereign of England; he had no hand in this reckless movement, but continued to give his confidence to Henry, and to enjoy that Monarch's especial favour during the whole of his reign. It is difficult to find in profane history so glorious an instance of mutual confidence and esteem as is displayed in the relations of these two men, March being "apparently content with the privileges and honours attached to a prince of the blood." "March," says Miss Roberts, in her "Rival Houses of York and Lancaster," "never once swerved from his allegiance, returning the liberal policy of Henry with undeviating gratitude. The confidence so nobly repaid and so honourably repaid is equally creditable to both parties, and these generous heirs of Lancaster and Mortimer afford perhaps a solitary instance of perfect harmony existing between two persons so delicately placed." The mind is carried back to Jonathan and David, for its parallel, and from the character of the man, we can well believe that his sorrow for the death of his sovereign and friend would be as genuine as that of David when Jonathan was slain. This noble-minded man died in 1424, and to our day his name and virtues have come down hallowed and revered as among the brightest examples among our great ancestors who have helped to make England what she is.

MORTIMER, SIR EDWARD, uncle to the "Young Earl of March," who resided at his castle of Wigmore, in Herefordshire, had a difficult game to play. His brother Roger had been the favourite of King Richard II., and when that monarch was deposed, his nephew, and the head of his house, was a close prisoner in Henry IV.'s hands. The Welsh had acknowledged Owen Glendower as their Prince, and under his leadership "the turbulent Welshmen" committed unheard of depredations upon the border lands. Sir Edward Mortimer led his retainers forth to chastise these people. They met at Knighton, in Radnorshire, when Glendower defeated the English,

and took Mortimer prisoner. The brave "Harry Hotspur" had married Lady Elizabeth Mortimer, and he was anxious to redeem his brother-in-law from captivity. He applied to the King for help, which was refused, "forbidding their tongues to speak of Mortimer." This insult to the Percies who had helped to put him on the throne rankled in their breasts, and begat the resolve to treat him as an usurper, and to sustain the claims of the Mortimers to the Crown. It did not take long to make terms with the Douglasses, and to enter into a treaty with Glendower, to revolt from Henry; and then followed the great battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, which ended in the defeat and death of Hotspur, and in the ruin of the Mortimer cause. Sir Edward Mortimer had been in captivity, as we have seen, to Owen Glendower, but we may fairly assume that Hotspur succeeded in securing his release when he entered into an accommodation with the Welsh prince. It is sometimes said that Owen's daughter was married to the *Earl of March*, but there surely can be no foundation for that statement, *this is the only Mortimer* who can be traced as falling into his hands, but he was not the "Earl." The story probably has been founded upon the tradition that Glendower's daughter *Jane* was married to Lord Grey de Ruthin; at all events there is no historical evidence to support the first story, and not very much in aid of the last, none that can interest Borderers, however sweet a morsel it may be to our Cambrian friends beyond the streams.

MORTIMER, ELIZABETH, daughter of Edmund and Philippa, is "wrongly mentioned," Mr. Allan says, "as their grand-daughter," she was born in Herefordshire, and wedded to the renowned Harry Hotspur of Chivy Chase, and Battlefield fame. A brave and noble gentlewoman, she was worthy alike of her lineage, and of her "belongings," the gallant Hotspur being enrolled as a Mortimer under that designation. We know how nobly he did battle for her kindred, and it needs no great stretch of imagination to carry us to the conviction, that he fought as much for her sake, as for that of her family. 'Tis little we know about her domestic life, but so bright a jewel cannot be left out of the Mortimer line. Her name and her "belongings" plead for her memory, and as we contemplate the history of the two great houses with which she was so closely connected, we always find a warm corner in the heart for her, and a fitting niche also among the noble Borderers, whom we love so well.

MORTIMER, HUGH, a scion of the same noble house as the Mortimers we have already mentioned, "adhered stoutly to the King" (John) during his wars with the Barons. Whether he was Salopian, Herefordian, or a Monmouth man by birth, is a moot point, but that he was "a Borderer" is said to be unquestionable. It is difficult to determine the grounds upon which he maintained the cause of the sovereign, for right or wrong the great houses had resolved to curb the royal prerogative, and to lay the foundation of England's future greatness upon the provisions of *Magna Charta*. It is probable, however, that Mortimer followed the well-established policy of his house, and following the example of his forefathers, he supported the king, because he was king, and regarded not the principles of equity or of justice which should always influence the Sovereign's policy in his relations with the people. So far as bravery was concerned, none gave higher proofs of it than Hugh Mortimer. His name, therefore, must always command respectful homage in that light, and we accord it the more willingly to him when we remember, how his undeviating attachment to the person of the King cost him many sacrifices, and that both he and his family suffered considerably in consequence of it.

MORTIMER, SIR JOHN, a cousin of the Earl of March of his time, was beheaded in the early part of Henry the sixth's reign, on the ground of his having attempted to wrest the crown from the head of that monarch, and to place it upon that of his cousin. There really is no good evidence in support of that charge, it was thought by many at the time to be both malicious and unfounded, and Hall says that the death of Mortimer caused "no small slander among the common people." It is clear from many sources of information that his execution did much to revive the remembrance of the Mortimer claims to the throne, and to draw attention afterwards to the better title of the Duke of York to the enjoyment of the Crown than poor unhappy Henry could set up. Sir John Mortimer was no traitor in any case, he was moreover a very gallant and honourable Englishman. He was born at Wigmore in Herefordshire, and his name is even now mentioned with reverence as the "Martyr Mortimer."

MORTIMER, ROGER, of the same line as the last mentioned, and born in Monmouthshire, it is thought, was "one of the brightest flowers of English chivalry." He was present at the fatal battle of Lewes, in 1264, when King Henry and his son fell into the hands of Montford. It was he who provided the "swift horse" which enabled Edward to escape from captivity, and who covered his retreat and carried him in safety to Wigmore Castle. Great and distinguished upon the field, he was no less famous in peace, "he emulated the bravery, the liberality, and courtesy of the Paladins of old, and now shines on the page of history with the dazzling grandeur of a hero of romance." His son Edmund married a kinswoman of Edward's Queen, and their nuptials were graced by the royal presence. Few are the shadows that have obscured the fame of this noble family, fewer still, that have darkened the brightness of Roger Mortimer's glorious career. His name and character must endure for all time, for he was animated in all he did by the highest motives, and he did his work in a princely and honourable way, striving as it were to make himself approved, both to his own conscience and to the verdict of posterity.

MORTIMER, ROGER, born in Herefordshire, but identified by two events, neither of them very agreeable to such of the adherents to this famed family as care for the honour and welfare of its members. He was son to one Edmund, "who was killed fighting against Llewelyn, Prince of Wales," not a very enviable parentage, when we remember how that Prince had right on his side. He was paramour of Queen Isabella, and wounded in this way his foolish sovereign in the tenderest part, but as men go, he was great, and his character has been so well drawn by Emma Roberts, that for his sake we will follow her picture of him. "The history of this great but unhappy man is too well known to require repetition, the single stain on the annals of the house of Mortimer—the title of Earl of March, conferred upon him during his vicious ascendancy over Edward's dissolute consort, but ill compensated for the loss of the proud integrity so scrupulously maintained by his ancestors. He finished his career of crime upon the scaffold, and the whole of his ill-acquired wealth was confiscated. Born in 1287, created Earl of March 1328, executed 1330, he spent full thirty of these forty-three years in working out his own and other people's destruction." What an ill-spent life, and sad an ending is conveyed to us in this short record of a "great man's" doings.

MORTIMER, ROGER, grandson of the last named, born about 1327 in Herefordshire some say, was brought up from childhood at the Court of Edward the Third. He obtained the honour of knighthood from the hands of that most gal-

lant and noble king at the same time as the Black Prince at an early age. That he gave proofs of his nobility and goodness who can doubt, when we read that "in the twenty-sixth year of the same monarch he obtained a reversal of the judgment against his grandfather, and thenceforth bore the title of Earl of March." He was then in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and had greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Cressy and in other ways. It has been happily said that King Edward, his guardian, friend, and sovereign, was the "greatest of the Plantagenets." He was so in more ways than one, but it sufficeth to know how just a prince he was, and seeing how Roger Mortimer found favour in his eyes we are led to conclude that he was most worthy of this regard, and deserving of all the honours conferred upon him by his sovereign. It is stated that he fought at Poitiers in 1356, but that is doubtful. He lived, however, till 1360, and then died as much revered as he had been honoured before.

MORTIMER, ROGER, son and successor of Edmund, by Philippa daughter of the Duke of Clarence, succeeded his father in the Government of Ireland. He was a brave knight, fine in person, bold, and of martial accomplishments; a favourite of King Richard the second "by a congeniality of disposition displayed in the lavish splendour of his household, the indulgence of the gay and frequent carnival, and the wild levity of his disregard of all religious restrictions." The wicked Duke of Gloucester had endeavoured to engage him in an intrigue against the king, but in that he would have no hand. His rashness led him to make a furious assault upon the O'Briens in Ireland, and fighting in the disguise of an Irish horseman he was overpowered and torn to pieces by his enemies before help could reach him. This sad event led Richard to attempt to revenge his death, and when engaged upon that work, Henry Bolingbroke aspired to the throne, deposed the king, and with the assent of the nobles he shortly afterwards assumed the Crown. The heirs of the House of Mortimer at the same time fell into his hands, and thus was laid the foundation of many wars, disastrous to England, and a blot upon our history. The one bright spot in their narrative has been already mentioned in the kindly relationship of Harry of Monmouth and the "young Earl of March." This particular Roger was born at Usk, Monmouthshire, in the year 1374 (some say 1377), he was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland in 1395, having been nominated by Parliament in 1385 heir apparent to the English Throne—in 1398 he was killed. By his marriage with Elizabeth, sister to Thomas Holland, Duke of Saxony, he had Anne who is the first of the Mortimers named in these records, and through her, as we have seen, his descendants eventually came by the Crown. The good Edmund, "Young Earl of March," was also his child, and Edward Mortimer, who fell captive to Owen Glendower, was his brother. There are numerous members of his race, both before and after him, who have made some figure in the world, but being mostly younger children or collaterals, it is impossible to give a satisfactory account of them, and they have accordingly been passed over altogether. It was a happy day for England when the Lancastrians and Yorkists became re-united. We can well afford to pass lightly over the mean disposition displayed by Henry the Seventh, and the debauched career of Henry the Eighth, in the contemplation of Edward the Sixth and Elizabeth's reigns. We may pity the failings of Mary also, but taking them for all in all, the Tudor descendants of Roger Mortimer amply made up for all the bloody events the nation had passed through during the "Wars of the Roses," so that when Elizabeth died in 1603, it was truly said that

"England stood highest in the Councils of Europe, than any other nation to be mentioned."

MOSS, RICHARD, was born in the year 1718, at Hurlston, in the County of Chester, and he was a poor boy, utterly devoid of any educational advantages. At the age of nineteen he went to London, where he indulged freely in dissipation, and of whom it may be said that "Vice was at a stand, and at the highest flow." One day he happened to be passing over Kennington Common, and there he heard Whitfield preach, a man who was standing at his side, fell dead at his feet, and this awful occurrence coupled with the burning words of that greatest of orators appalled him into seriousness. The words which he had heard spoken sank deep into his heart, and in time terminated in the entire change of his nature. He read, studied, laboured, and even toiled to fit himself for the ministry. In 1752 he was ordained, by the Bishop of London, as a missionary for the West Indies, where he preached the Gospel for several years, and at length finished his course with joy.

MOTTERSHEAD, MARY, a poor native of Chester who had to toil for her bread, and who never dreamt that her name could be mentioned with respect long after her departure from the world, is a "Worthy" who has a peculiar claim to our notice. In the year 1558 she lived at a tavern at Chester called the *Blue Posts*, when no less a personage than Dr. Henry Cole, Dean of St. Paul's visited her house. He was on his way to Ireland with a commission from Queen Mary to her council at Dublin, to put down the Irish Protestants. In this house he was visited by Sir Lawrence Smith, who at that time was mayor of the city, and to whom in the course of conversation he related his errand, and taking up a leather box he exclaimed, "Here is what will lash the heretics of Ireland." The sharp witted landlady, overhearing this exclamation, and fearing that some harm would befall a brother of hers who was at Dublin, managed to open the box in the absence of her guest, took out the commission and placed in lieu of it a pack of cards with the Knave of Clubs uppermost. The exultant Dean next day proceeded upon his journey and never discovered the trick played upon him until, when in the presence of the Council at Dublin he had to deliver up his commission. Before a new authority could be procured Queen Mary died, and Elizabeth having heard of the transaction, rewarded Mrs. Mottershead with a pension of forty pounds a year for her life.

MOULTON, WILLIAM, born at Chester in the year 1769, is another of the early Methodists who is deserving of especial mention. He was appointed to the ministry by the Conference of 1794, and it is remarkable to notice how in the latter years of the last century, many of the ministers selected "for circuit work" were, like himself, peculiarly qualified to meet the pressing wants of the time. The poor had been left by Church and State to their own dangerous thoughts, and, as might be expected, they cared very little for law, and thus they fell an easy prey to the worst of agitators, who declaimed alike against law and the Gospel. This class of men had peculiar claims upon the attentions of Mr. Moulton, and he preached to them a free salvation from sin, and the duty of obedience to the powers that be. None can tell how much good he did in this way, but we know how the poorer Methodists always displayed a loyal affection to the Crown, a loving and a living attachment to their country, and a consuming devotion to the welfare of their fellow men. A loyal servant of the Cross, Mr. Moulton earnestly laboured to benefit this class of people,

and when in 1835 he died, it was his pardonable boast that he had been faithful to his mission, and was himself saved through the great Atonement which he had preached to others.

MOULTRIE, JOHN, son of the Rev. George Moultrie, of Cleobury Mortimer, was born in Shropshire in the year 1799. He died in 1875, and the *Athenæum* thus summed up his character—"Shropshire born, Wiltshire bred, at Eton taught, at Cambridge perfected, and at Rugby stationed, to give to the world the great benefit of his training, John Moultrie has closed an honourable and useful life." By no means an over-wrought tribute to his worth, for he had made his mark early as a poet in "My brother's grave," and many of his poetical contributions have been collected and published. He also edited an edition of Gray and was known as a prominent contributor to Knight's Quarterly Magazine. The Earl of Craven did himself honour when he presented him to the living of Rugby.

MOWBRAY, MATILDA, born at Clifford Castle, Herefordshire, to which place she afterwards became heiress, and was frequently a resident there, is deserving of mention, for her costly embellishment of the beautiful Church of Leominster. She put up two magnificent windows in that noble edifice, the greater of which for largeness of dimension, ingenuity of workmanship, and grandeur of appearance, is probably not equalled in the kingdom, nor did she withhold her hand from the poor, for she gave to their use for ever, lands that go by the name of Etnam Common. There are gifts in other parts of Herefordshire accredited to her, but her name will ever live in connection with her munificence to Leominster alone.

MYND, GEORGE, born at Llanfrothen, Herefordshire, about 1719, is supposed to have descended from a very highly honourable family of his name long settled in the county. He was esteemed as one peculiarly qualified to expound the ancient customs of his native land, being both a learned and observant man, and who from habit, or from choice, or both probably, had become a careful scribe, who wrote down from the lips of aged people the customs and traditions of Herefordshire, and was thereby enabled to testify upon them. Not a very safe conclusion to arrive at upon so light a foundation, but there are evidences that show he was an authority upon these matters and that he could be depended upon. The celebrated St. Dubricius is said to have founded a College near to Ross, which, according to charter or by prescription, had acquired some rights of fishing peculiar to it. Mr. Mynd claimed that "the *brinkers*, or persons owning land adjoining the river, have a right to fish within the liberty of Archenfield, provided they expose the salmon and the fish that are caught, for sale, on a board fixed up in the Hereford turnpike road, between Llanfrothen and Horienthy." And Mr. Bonnor in one of his books explains that the "free water" extended from Lear Home Lacy to Strangford, a distance of between seven and ten miles; but Mr. Mynd contended that "it ran for a length of upwards of nine miles," and with other gentlemen of Herefordshire he compelled the fishermen to bring their fish to the "board" already mentioned, "that any woman big with child or poor person might have as small a piece as a pound," that probably being a "custom" appertaining to the free fishing in question. Mr. Bonnor, writing in 1799, states "the Court" had fixed the price of salmon at fourpence a pound, but that it often fetched no more than twopenny halfpenny at Ross. We conclude that Mr. Mynd was both an antiquarian and a stickler for the customs which served the poor, one of

the old race of English gentlemen who felt that property had its duties, and who studied to fulfil them in that broad spirit of equity which helped to bind both rich and poor of former days to each other. He died at a great age in the early part of the present century, and following the written testimony we have seen about him we concur in the opinion that he was a true gentleman, a just and kind benefactor to the poor, and possessed that gift of charity which commended him both to God and man.

MYNORS, RICHARD, or Richard de Miners, son of one Henry de Miners, was born, it is supposed, at Burghell, in Herefordshire, and claimed descent from one Mynors, a Norman who came over to England with the Conqueror. There is some evidence that so early as 1226, he conveyed some of the Burghell lands to a son, and abundant proof that he was head of a great house of eminent men, who continued to flourish down to one Robert Minors, of Treago, who died in 1672. How long after that date the old line remained in direct descent is not clear, but in 1765 one Robert Mynors died, when the estates passed over to Mr. Rickards, and he then assumed the family name. The Mynors undoubtedly occupied a distinguished place in Border history, and became allied to most of the principal families there, and the gentleman at the head of this note is deserving of worshipful mention as the stem from whence so many branches have issued both in this and in the adjoining counties.

MYNORS, WILLIAM, whose name is not mentioned in the annals of the family from whence the preceding worthy is said to derive, lived at Hereford in the year 1423, and according to a manuscript belonging to Mr. Charles Heath of Monmouth, he was a personage of some consequence, and a native of the county. He took an active part in the border raids, which at that time pre-distinguished that part of England, "but fighting on the wrong side, he was compelled to leave the neighbourhood and is supposed to have died in London." It would have been more satisfactory to be told the "side" he fought for, but we know by too sad and true a testimony that in the unsettled times preceding the occupation of the English throne by Henry VII., "the wrong side" was too often alas, the just and honest one, and that some of the bravest, and most loyal sons of the borders, had to suffer cruel wrong for daring to act according to their sense of duty. It Mr. Mynors happened to be of the number, all praise to him, and he is at least entitled to respectful mention here.

MYNSHUL, GEFFRAY. This gentleman published in 1618 "Essays" on Prisons and Prisoners, and in 1638 the volume passed through a second edition. It was again re-printed in 1821, with a short notice of the author. The general impression is, and always has been, that Mynshul was a Cestrian by birth or descent, but Mr. Richard Llwyd, in some heraldic notes upon Cheshire families says he was born at Minshull Hall, not far from Nantwich. A writer in the *Sheaf* states the book was dedicated to "His most loving and ever respected kind uncle, Mr. Mathew Mainwaring of Nantwich in Cheshire," and he adds, "we may reasonably presume Mynshul to have been a native." He is mentioned therefore in these records as a Cheshire man upon common repute, and the slight evidence alluded to above, but both his names have a local ring about them, and certainly no other shire has been able to lay a better claim to him than the Cestrians have done.

MYNSHULL, THOMAS, a celebrated medical man, who practised at Manchester, was born at Wistaston, Cheshire, in or about the year 1614. He had descended from

a very ancient family of his name, and Mr. Palmer asserts that Milton's third wife was his grand-daughter. In this he is mistaken, and we are unwillingly compelled to de-flower him of that claim to notice. He gained by his own abilities sufficient distinction to entitle him to a place in history as the friend of Humphrey Chetham; a first governor of the Chetham Hospital and Library; and first treasurer of the Charities. He justly acquired a share of the renown attached to these historical institutions, and we prefer therefore to notice him in these relations. Living to a great age, and moving, as he did, in the very best society, his name, fame, honour, and piety, commended him to the notice of eminent people as a man of the times; and although he has been dead for near two hundred years his memory still lives; and is always mentioned with respect, in the local records of Manchester. He died in 1698.

MYTWYNDE, THOMAS, a native of Cheshire, born near Over, in the year 1415, is mentioned in an old manuscript, as a priest who accompanied the English to some of the continental expeditions, and who, having fought among the living, administered spiritual consolation to the dying. There was a friar of his name living in 1462, attached to some of the Cheshire Orders, it is possible that he may have been the same person, and had returned to his native land safe and sound. He is spoken of as a godly, and earnest man, much devoted to the Church, and merciful to the poor.

OCTOBER 22, 1879.

NOTES.

SHUTS.—Mr. W. Hughes, in his paper on Shrewsbury Street Names, published in the Shropshire Archaeological Society *Journal* (Vol. 2, p. 409), says the word "shut," as designating a passage leading from one street to another, is peculiar to Shrewsbury. Halliwell gives "shut, a narrow street;" as pertaining to the west. In Oswestry as a boy I very well remember the "Star Shut," which led from Leg-st. to Bailey-st.; the "Butcher's Arms Shut" (also called "Street Arthur") leading from Willow-street to the Bailey Head, and others. Now a days in Oswestry the term shut is only used by the lower class, and limited, I think, to yards that have no outlet. I note that in Shrewsbury, as well as in Oswestry, the "shut" pretty generally took its name from the public house at the end of it. JARCO.

CHARACTERISTICS OF MAWDDWY.—There is an old couplet, well known on the banks of the Upper Dovey, which says,

Tri pheth o Fawddwy a ddaw,
Dyn adgas, nêd glâs, a gwlaw;

and which some bard, without improving it, has elaborated into a sort of englyn, which, as given in Pennant (*Tours*, ii., 234), is as follows:—

O Fowddy ddu ni ddaw, dim allan
A ellir ei rwystraw,
Ond tri pheth helaeth hylaw—
Dyn adgas, nod glas, a gwlaw.

A friend has attempted a translation of the couplet, which reads thus:—

Three things in Mawddwy you will find,—
Blue-colour'd earth, and man unkind,
And rain incessant night and day,
Without one glimpse of solar ray. GWYDDAN.

QUERIES.

SALOPIAN TOPOGRAPHY.—In the list of works relating to Shropshire Topography, published by Mr. Walcott in the second volume of the *Shrop: Arch. Society*, I do not find "Antiquities and Beauties of Shropshire, by W. Pearson." In the *Salopian Journal*, Mar. 13, 1805, the first two parts (in super-royal 4to) were announced as ready, and it was stated that two parts would appear every other month until completed. The first and second parts were to contain the following views, "engraved by W. Pearson, (Swan Hill Court, Shrewsbury,) from original drawings taken on the spot:—Haughmond Abbey, Chapter House at ditto, Lilleshall Abbey, Stoke Castle, Gateway of ditto, Buildwas Abbey. Each part was to be 7s. Was the work ever completed?—J.Z.R.

THE FELTONS OF OSWESTRY.—Is this old Oswestry family still in existence? In the new number of *Mont: Coll.* (Vol 12, p. 348) three of the family are recorded as being made Burgesses of Welshpool, viz.:—John ffelton de Shrewsbury and Jacobus ffelton de Oswestrie, brasiers, 1690; John and Phillip, "sons of James, late Brasier of Oswestry, sworn burgesses the 12th day of 9ber, 1727." Being sworn burgesses of Welshpool did not mean leaving Oswestry; and amongst the Old Chapel documents of the latter place the name of Felton frequently occurs. As will be seen in *Bye-gones*, Oct. 1, James Felton was the responsible party in the conversion of a cottage into a meeting-house, in 1715. He is described in the Welshpool entry of 1727, as "the late," and his death seems to have taken place before 1718, for in that year a new trust deed was prepared in consequence of the death of four of the old trustees, of whom he was one. In 1723 the name of "Joha Felton of Oswestry, brazier," appears in an Old Chapel document; no doubt a son, and the same John who was made a Burgess of Pool in 1727. John in turn gives place to "Thomas Felton of Oswestry brazier," in a deed dated 1777, and he disappears before 1793. JARCO.

REPLIES.

ELLESMERE (Sep. 17, 1879).—More than forty years ago old swimmers in Ellesmere were in the habit of referring to a paved road at the bottom of the Mere, which went by the name of "The Ladies' Walk." When they were young this walk could be followed from the edge of the water until the party following it got up to his chin. W.O.H.

AN OLD WELSH HARPER (Sep. 17, 1879).—The *Salopian Journal* of June 19, 1833, contains the following announcement of death:—"On the 27th ult. at Towyn, Merionethshire, aged 83, Mr. Griffith Owen, formerly of the Raven Inn. He was a native of Penmorfa, Carnarvonshire, and was one of the most celebrated Harpers Wales ever produced." G.G.

NAME OF AUTHOR WANTED (Sept. 17, 1879).—Assuming as I do that the couplet under consideration is a complete sentence, it is simply impossible, so far as I understand the construction of the language, that "olwynion" should be the nominative to "trystiant." I certainly did and do take "twrf" to be the subject of the verb; and if we, with "R.W." take "olwynion" as the nominative, I should be glad to be informed in what case he places "twrf." To me the sentence is sufficiently plain; but I consider that it has a singular nominative to a plural verb, which, to my thinking, is ungrammatical. IDNERTH.

JOHN IRELAND (July 2, 1879).—Mr. Salisbury is entirely mistaken in assigning the governor of Hereford prison as the father of Dean Ireland (the founder of the distinguished Ireland Professorship and Scholarship at Oxford), or that city as the place of his birth. Nothing is more certain than that his father was Thomas Ireland, a butcher at Ashburton, co. Devon, where the future Dean was born on the 8th and baptized on the 29th of September, 1761. J.L.C.

OSWESTRY WATCHMAKERS (Aug. 20, 1879). Your correspondent "D" has a curiosity, worthless as a piece of mechanism (for I have heard its history), but valuable as a relic of Oswestry. The Time-piece he describes, with "Belcamp, Oswestry," on it, was the manufacture of Mr. Campbell, who was in business in The Cross more than half a century ago, and who was the second Mayor of Oswestry under the Municipal Corporations Act. Mr. Campbell was succeeded by Mr. Tom Stanton, and when the latter gave up business this Time-piece was still in stock. It was the only one of the kind Mr. Campbell had made, and he sent it to an engraver to have his name put on it, though why the engraver *spell Campbell with the syllables reversed* does not transpire.

JARCO.

GEORGE SALUSBURY OF ERBISTOCK (Sept. 17, 1879).—He was a younger son of Sir John Salusbury of Llewellyn, Knt., Chamberlain of N. Wales, by Jane, his wife, daughter and heiress of David Middleton of Chester, and by Jane, his wife, daughter of Thomas Grosvenor of Eaton had a son, Thomas Salusbury of Erbistock, who by Mary his wife, daughter of Rowland Hill of Hawkstone, Esq., was father of John Salusbury, living 19th Feb., 1675, and of Elizabeth, wife of John Puleston of Pickhill, ancestor to Sir Richard Puleston, Bart. I do not know how the Salusburies acquired Erbistock, nor whether John Salusbury was married. In the last century the place belonged to Robert Williams, Esq., M.P. for Montgomeryshire, younger brother to Sir W. Williams Wynn, Bart., of Wynnstay, Robert Williams, and his wife, Mervyl Williams of Ystymcolwyn, died in 1763 without issue, and he bequeathed his property, or it went by settlement, to his nephew, Watkin Williams of Penbedw, Esq., Lord-Lieutenant of Denbighshire and Merionethshire, M.P., for Montgomeryshire, and afterwards for many years for the Flint Boroughs, who died in November, 1808, and this Erbistock estate was conveyed by him in exchange for lands more contiguous to his own, to his kinsman, the late Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., to whose son, the present Bart., it now belongs. Watkin Williams was eldest son of Richard, M.P., for Flint, youngest brother to Robert Williams above. W.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (Sep. 10, 1879). In one of your late issues I see a notice of Flying Waggoners. I recollect the team well. It consisted of three horses, and was driven (between Shrewsbury and Bangor) by one Williams, a Welshman; but I should demur to the term "flying" as applicable to this vehicle, inasmuch as in one of my many walks from Oswestry to Shrewsbury I came up with Williams at the public house at Queen's Head Gate. His horses were being baited, and the driver was what I called being whetted. Being old acquaintances, he asked me to ride, and I, nothing loth, agreed. "You will overtake me going up the hill," I said; so on I sped, and to some purpose too, for I was in my own shop in Shrewsbury before he overtook me, and as he drove up Mardol gave him my thanks for his proffered ride. And this calls to my recollection an incident

that happened in one of my many rides with the Hon. Thomas Kenyon. What a spin it was from the Lion to Pradoc! And how kind and smiling his Honour was to his passengers. In one or two instances when his Honour was detained by business I have been driven by Chester Billy. Well, some fifty years ago I wanted a ride, and as my wont was when I had the permission of the Hon. Thomas, I jumped up behind, but had not ridden above a mile before the man said "His Honour did not see you." "O yes he did, I replied." "No, no, he did not," was reiterated. "Then I will get down," and so suited the action to the word, and had a fine walk to Oswestry. On the following day his Honour came into my shop at Shrewsbury as soon as he reached the town. "Why in the world did you get down yesterday?" I replied, "The servant said your Honour did not see me." "O," said the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, "whenever you want to go to Oswestry be sure and come with me; you will always be welcome." Such was the kindness of a kindly man; and it so happened that from that time until his death it was often my pleasure to jump up and ride the twelve miles to Pradoc. J.W.

[The "Flying Waggoners" referred to by "G.G." Sept. 10, were for the conveyance of goods only. We fancy "J.W." is wrong in assuming that coaches were ever so called.—Ed.]

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Oct. 15, 1879.)

NEEDHAM, JOHN, second son of Robert Needham, by Dorothy Savage, of Clifton, in Cheshire, was born in that county. In 1449 he became Common-Sergeant of London, and in 1454 a King's Sergeant. In 1457 he was made a judge of the Common Pleas, and his judgments are often recorded in the year books. The last record we have seen of his is dated 1479, and at that time he was "Sir John," having been knighted by Henry the Sixth. He had a seat at Shavington, in Shropshire, and the Kilmoreys are descendants of his. Many other families of note trace their descents from him, and indeed some of them take rather dubious methods of doing so, but a tacit acquiescence in their pretensions upon the part of the Heralds has given them a prescriptive right to claim him as an ancestor, although they would find it difficult to prove their title to that distinction legally.

NEWPORT, HENRY, son of Richard, Earl of Bradford, by Mary Weston his wife, is said to have been born at Eytton on Severn, Shropshire. It was he who purchased the barony of Wem, and who represented the county of Salop in the last Parliament of Queen Anne. He favoured the House of Hanover, and upon the accession of George the First he was again returned to Parliament as member for his county, but in 1722 he and Sir Robert Corbet of Adderley were beaten by Kynaston and Lloyd, much to their own surprise, for this is said to have happened through the influence of some of their own trusted friends. In 1723 he obtained a seat in the House of Lords, and thenceforth he took no great interest in local politics. He was at one time Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire, and upon the accession of George II. he got the same high distinction conferred upon him for Salop and Montgomery, a sure proof of his public influence and of the interest he commanded at Court. It is the fashion to say that he maintained his independence notwithstanding all this, and if this be true he must have been a remarkable man. He died in 1734, and was buried at Westminster Abbey.

NEWPORT, SIR RICHARD, was probably born at Eyton upon Severn, where his father, Sir Francis Newport, had been living. He was a person of considerable consequence in his county, and for nine years was high steward of the Manor of Wem. He purchased the Manor of Lacon from one of the Bannisters, and about that time (1642), Charles the first advanced him to the dignity of a Baron of England, under the style or title of Lord Newport of High Ercal, in the county of Salop. We may suppose that he took up his residence at Ercal, that place being mentioned as "a fortified house," but it was taken notwithstanding by the garrison of Wem in 1646, and of course plundered. Lord Newport suffered in other ways for his loyalty, being mulcted in a sum of more than three thousand pounds, and was so hated by the enemy, that he had to flee to France for safety, where he died in 1651.

NEWPORT, RICHARD, grandson of the last named, was best known as that Earl of Bradford who served in the Privy Council in the reigns of Anne and George I. His father had favoured the Revolution, and William and Mary created him Earl of Bradford; but, unlike his father, he found no pleasure in a courtly life, and never accepted preferment of any kind, unless it be the Lord Lieutenancy of his county. His best years were spent at Eyton-upon-Severn, in the enjoyment of a quiet retirement, and in the bosom of his family. A grave and thoughtful man, he cherished a love for religious exercises, and his character was both exemplary and pious. He married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Weston, a Staffordshire Baronet, and acquired through her a large addition to his estates. He died in the ninth year of George I., and was buried at Wroxeter, in his native county.

NEWPORT, SIR WILLIAM, son and heir of Thomas Newport, by Anne Ercall, was born at High Ercall, Salop, and after marrying a daughter of Lord Grey of Codnor, he was knighted. He was engaged in the sixth of Henry IV. under Lord Talbot in putting down the Welsh, who had rebelled against the King, and Henry of Monmouth alludes to him in a letter to his father as "the loyal and valiant Sir William Newport," through whose courage mainly the Welsh were defeated. There are many references made to him in the records of the period, and he is said to have been present in November of the eighth of Hen. IV. when Rees ap Griffith ap Llewelin ap Jenkin entered into articles with Henry, Prince of Wales, to deliver up Aberystwyth Castle to the King. The time of his death is uncertain, but we know that he predeceased his son John, who succeeded to his estates, and married a daughter of Sir John Burgh, and that his descendants have since flourished for many generations in both Shropshire and Staffordshire.

NEWTON, EDWARD, of Butley, in Cheshire, is worthy of honourable mention, if for no other reason, than his being father of Thomas Newton, the brilliant scholar who has been named already. He was himself, according to reliable testimony, a fine character and a good Christian. His good son put up a small brass plate to his memory, with this record upon it, "Heere under lieth buried Edward Newton late of Butley yeoman; who deceased ye 12th day of May 1589, being of the age of 72 years, and having had by Alyce his wife (with whom he lived in wedlock 50 years) seven sons and seven daughters." "Yeoman" was as honourable a title in Edward Newton's days as any honest man could wish to bear. We have neither gained glory nor honour as a nation by supplanting that class of men, and making room for the crowd of esquires and knights, who, in latter days, have gained their spurs by their wealth and very rarely by their public services.

NEWTON, HUMPHREY, born at Newton, near Prestbury, in Cheshire, in the year 1466, is mentioned by some writers as a lawyer of eminence, but he practised in the conveyancing line chiefly, his precise and methodical turn of mind, befitting him for that occupation far better than for the more exciting one of an advocate. He is entitled to notice as a compiler of some interesting Cheshire manuscripts, which now belong to the Davenport family; probably also as a versifier, for according to the report of the Royal Commission on Historical MSS., "Numerous specimens of Latin and English versification" are to be met with among his papers. He died in 1536.

NORRIS, ROBERT, a Monmouthshire man by birth, and supposed to be a cousin of the Rev. John Norris, the Platonic philosopher, who in 1682 published "The picture of love unveiled." He was himself both a writer and a poet, but none of his productions appear to have been printed, none of them certainly in his own name. He was a gentleman by birth and education, fond of travelling, and collecting curious examples of natural history; most of his time was thus spent in Cornwall and South Wales, and partly in Brittany, where he died in 1697. He was never married, and his archaeological remains, we may suppose, passed at his death to his cousin John, already mentioned.

NUTTHALL, JOHN, a native of Tattenhall, in Cheshire, and who died in 1586, was a man of considerable mark in his county. He had served in the low countries, and was greatly devoted to the interests of Elizabeth and the reformed religion. In 1580 he had conferred upon the Escheatorship of Cheshire, and notwithstanding the general law to the contrary, he appears to have held this office to his death, as some of his predecessors had done before him. Cheshire had the privilege allowed to her by statute to choose her own escheators, and Leicester has given the names of many dignified men who have held this high office. The gentleman whose name is thus mentioned must not be confounded with John Nuttall, who published in the early part of the seventeenth century "A Manual of Divinitie," for the latter was a Derbyshire man, who died in 1615, and was in no way connected with our worthy.

OAKES, EDWARD, born at Macclesfield, Cheshire, in the year 1770, was educated under the Rev. David Simpson, M.A. His friends had designed him for a Churchman, but a sermon preached by the celebrated Joseph Benson, carried him over to the Methodists. From 1788 to 1814, he laboured in his native county as a lay preacher, and was always ranked among those Methodists, "who loved all that was good in the Church, but who strove to conform to her authority only by undermining her influence with the masses." That is a hard saying, and untrue in fact, for what these people hoped to do was to carry the masses over to the Church, if the Church could only be induced to receive them as children. Having failed in his one great object, he was received into the regular ministry by the Conference of 1814, and thenceforth he laboured for Methodism, "being convinced that God was able to save all such as came to Him through Christ, even though they came not in the legal way." A truly good man, we may be sure he served his Master honestly, did honour to his calling, service to his country, and that he died "in perfect peace" in the year 1838, his conscience being void of offence.

ONSLOW, RICHARD, eldest son of Roger Onslow of Shrewsbury, mercer, was born and bred in that town, but proceeding to London early in life, and there devoting himself to the study of the law, he rose with great rapidity to eminence and distinction. "He was Recorder of

London, Attorney of the Duchy of Lancaster and Court of Wards, Solicitor-General to the Queen, and finally Speaker of the House of Commons." In Blakeway's History of Shrewsbury we find the following reference to him under date 1571. This year Master Rycharde Onslowe, Master of the Queene's Majestie's Wardes, commynge in good helthe to Shrewsberie (where he was borne and brought up) to vysit his uncle Umffrey Onslowe, then being baylyf, ended hys lyfe, and lyethe buried in St. Chadd's Church, being the VIIIth day of Aprell." He had married an heiress of Surrey named Catherine Harding, and obtained with her the Knollestate in that county, his descendants became known as of that shire, and step by step, they worked their way to the Peerage, and at length to the Earldom of Onslow.

OULTON, WALLEY, a native of Cheshire, was probably the last male descendant of the Oulton branch of a very eminent and distinguished family, who could boast of holding lands in Cheshire from a period which "could never be traced." The Egertons married into this house, and secured for themselves the good things belonging to them; whereas poor Walley died so much involved that his widow had to mortgage the little property he left to satisfy the demands of pressing creditors. One of his beggared sons settled in Ireland, another in America, and William C. Oulton, an Irish writer of the last century, had to turn author for a living. The date of Mr. Oulton's death is not known, but he was great grandfather to the last mentioned gentleman, who was living in the early part of the present century.

OWEN, FRANCIS, whose body is supposed to lie within the Church of Presteigne in Radnorshire, is claimed by Herefordshire as a native of that county; and Mr. Allen in a manuscript note supports that claim. He was a person of family, and of consequence, upon the Borders; but he is chiefly noticed here as introductory to the following strange memorial, put up to his honour within the chancel of the church already mentioned. "Here lieth the body of Francis Owen of Brampton in this parish, gent. who died March 12th, 1686, aged 80, who had the happiness not only to see, but to cohabit with his father, grandfather, and great grandfather, from whom he was lineally descended, and as many generations issuing from his loins in a lineal descent downwards, viz., his son, grandson, and great grandson, he himself making the seventh generation of his family in his own memory and house of Brampton." So rare an instance of personal intercourse between seven generations in lineal descent can hardly be met with, and although the record is quaintly worded, the pure will read its true meaning between the lines, and approve of it accordingly.

OCTOBER 29, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Aug. 20, 1879.)

Our instalment is interesting this week as containing the first record of the cup Sir Hugh Middleton presented to the Corporation. A list of the existing charities of Oswestry appears in Cathrall's *History*, pp. 123-8, but it will be seen that some of the undermentioned do not appear in that list. ED.

The xxvjth day of october, 1616.

Att an Election holden the day and yere aforesaid The Constitutions and by Lawes hereunto annexed & subscribed are agreed upon to be put in execution by the gen^{ral} assente of the Bailiffs assembled and burgesses in

present Election and have chosen for this yere fyve men to be assistinge unto the Baillys whose names are subscribed.

William Thomas gent.
Richard wicherley gen.
Moris Rogers
pyerce williams gent.
Roger Edwardes m^rcer
Edward Dayves glovr.

19 Novembris 1619.

Rec. the daye afo^{syd} in open election by the hands of Richard Jones gent. one lease granted by mr John Gwyn thelder of his bequeth to the poore of the Towne & liberties of Oswestrie weeklie for ev^r/

Rec. more Mr. Gwyn two leases to the Bailiffs for the tyme being for the explanation of his s^d bequeth, these were d^d [delivered] Mr. Jones by Theodore Trevor gent. & now d^d ov^r to us be^ge ba^lffs.

Rec. in open election one great Cuppe of silver be^gn the Cuppe of mr Hugh Middleton goldsmith of London for the Towne of Oswestrie.

Rich. Jones, } Bailiffs.
Hugh Muckleston, }

Oswestrie 29 8bris 1619.

M^d. that three s^vall acquaintances were sealed wth the Towne Seale the daye & yere aboves^d for three quarters pay due to the poore of this towne from the companie of Haberdashers of london, accordinge to the gifte of mr Owen morgan deceased, &c.

1. thone acquitance is for vii due the xxth daie of June last.
2. thother acquitance for vii. due the xxth daie of September last.
3. the third daie the xxth daye of december next for vii. more thes^d acquaintances wer sent up to mr Thomas Kinaston of blackwell haule by Rob^t lloyd carier the day & yere aforesaid.

Memorandum. The sixth of Novemb^r 1619.

Received from Richard Jones gent iij Bonds Taken by hyme for the use the poore of Tene pounds left by Mr. Richard Lloid of Asten Deceased (videlt)

1. one Bond wherein Frances lloid gent is bound wth shurety in the Some of viij^l for the payment of iiij^l. viijs. the second daie of februaire next.
2. Another bond ec^t, of Roger Jones of viij^l. for the payment of iiij^l viijs. the daye afo^{syd}/
3. another of John ap Dd baker of iiij^l. for the paym^t of xliiis the daye afo^{syd} &c.

1. Rec. another bond taken by the s^d Richard Jones gent of John Rob^ts glover wth surties of iiij^l for the payment of xliiis. the first of Jan^{rye} next.

2. Rec. likwyse another bond from the s^d mr Jones of vj^l wherein Roger Thomas & his surties are bound for the payment of iiij^l. vjs. the vijth of Janu^{rye} next.

the form^r two bonds Mr. Jones Rec by the hands of Theodore Trevor gent

3. Rec. from Mr. Hodges one bond wherein Kadwalder moris standeth bound with sureties for the paym^t of vl xs. the first daye of Janu^{rye} next ens^gne.

this last fyve pownds was parte of the xl. w^{ch} mr Brian kinaston deceased left to the Towne of Oswestrie, the form^r vl was of the xl left to Elizabeth Peirce deceased.

the other vl & the chardges is due by execution from Richard Lloid gent & others & . . . Peirce hath a pawne for this execution/

Rec. one bond from Richard Parry, &c of five pounds for the payment of three pounds thirteen shillings & iiijd : bequeathed to the poore by John Rogers gent, deceased.

m'd. that v.l. of the money w'ch mr Brian kinaston left to the poore payed to mr will'm moris for celing hish're of the custome of his maulte by the then Bailiffs w'th tha ssent of the sixe men [Query 'Excisemen?'] w'ch money is due to the poore.

Rich Jones
Hugh Mickelston

QUERIES.

CAERWYS EISTEDDFOD.—Is any list in existence of the candidates for prizes at the eisteddfod held at Caerwys in 1798 under the patronage of the "Gwyneddigion Society?" I shall be much indebted for any information concerning Rowland Richards, harper, of Mallywd, who flourished about this time. NEWO.

THE CHAPEL OF THE RED HAired.—In a note to a paper contributed by Dr. Beddoe to No. 2 of the *Anthropological Review*, he states:—"Dr. Bird of Swansea informed me that the chapel of the Anglo Norman garrison at Brecon was anciently known as 'the chapel of the red haired.' This is rather a striking fact as red hair is not uncommon among the South Welsh themselves at the present day." Any information respecting the chapel above mentioned, why called, &c., will oblige.

BRECONIAN.

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY CHURCH (Sep. 17, 1879).—An old inhabitant (Mr. Thomas of Penylan Lane) tells me that the rebuilding of a portion of the tower in 1820 refers to a new balustrade and pinnacles at the top, which took the place of much heavier ones (that are shown in an engraving drawn in 1804). When these alterations were made, the workmen cut the word "Nant" on a new stone supporting the head of the staircase at the south-west corner of the tower, which used to be popularly known as "the Giant's Chair." This was done because the stone came from some quarries at the Nant. At that time an ash tree grew out of the tower, and a bricklayer named Edmunds was one day let down by a rope to saw it off. All this, my informant says, was done about the time Mr. Salwey came; and at the same time Church-street was widened by a slice being taken from the Churchyard; but here he must be in error, for Mr. Salwey did not take up his residence in Oswestry until 1825. JARCO.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR (Oct. 8, 1879).—The marginal corrections in Mr. Joseph's copy of Griffith Roberts's Grammar are not in the Wynnstay copy. They must have been made by some former possessor of the book. The Wynnstay copy has many similar corrections and additions in the handwriting of William Maurice, of Cevn y Braich, Llan-silin, to whom the copy, or the greater part of it, at one time belonged; as on the title-page, just above the device, we find—"Wilh Mauricij Liber 1643." At the end of "Iaith Gambr yn annerch yr hygar darleyd," we meet with the following statement to the same effect:—"Edw. ap Roger (Euton) gynt oedd berchenog y llyfr hwn. nunc Guil. Mauricij Lansilinsis. hwn oedd Ed. ab Roger Euton o Fodyllin ym mhlwyf Riwabon ym Maelor." This copy has also some readings in the margin, which are not in the handwriting of the antiquary of Cevn y Braich, and which apparently are of an earlier date.

D. SILVAN EVANS.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Oct. 22, 1879.)

PANTULF, WILLIAM, who is supposed to have been son to the first of his name, who acquired the lordships of Wem and of Drayton in Salop, and who was himself born in that county, is named as among the very first of our "lay saints" who cheerfully gave up their possessions to mother Church, in England, when under the Norman rule. He was so devoted to his religion that he would gaze with reverence upon any relics placed before him, and the quick-witted French clergy who swarmed to these shores soon after the conquest, found this poor benighted man in a willing state of mind to follow their religious guidance. According to Ordericus the Monk, the simple soul gave up to the Abbot of S. Efrulph in 1074, "the church and manor of Drayton," and thus denuded himself of much worldly goods, so that he might in the end secure a treasure in heaven which should never pass away.

PARR, ROBERT, great grandson to the "olde, olde very olde Parr," is said by Mr. Hulbert to have been born in Shropshire; others say in a place called Kinver, Worcestershire. The former writer, in his "History of the County of Salop," states he was living with his great grandfather when the King's messenger called upon Old Parr to attend upon his Majesty, and, although we much question the whole story, we cannot very well refuse to mention this more than centenarian, as one of the many Salopians who are said to have attained to a great age. He lived till 1757, and then died at the age of one hundred and twenty-five years, but no one has stated where he died, nor the place of his burial, and we may very fairly assume therefore that his history is based upon tradition only, without so much as a single reliable authority to support it.

PARRY, JOHN, born at Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire, in the year 1804, was sent to Rotherham Independent College for his education, and afterwards he settled at York as assistant to the Rev. James Parsons. For a time he served the Independent Church at Lichfield, but in 1837 he sought and obtained admission to the Wesleyan Methodist Ministry, and thenceforth laboured among that people. His qualifications for the public ministrations of his calling, were of no common order, and it is not unlikely that the tone of his mind, his peculiar theological training, and his matured judgment might fit him to do a work among the Methodists, the beneficial results of which can even now be seen and appreciated. He died at Sowerby in 1871. A friend who knew him well says of him—"Tis not often you see an Independent becoming a Methodist, the gulph between the two sects being almost impassable in that direction, but Mr. Parry had the soul of a Wesley within him, and he was far more fitted for the Wesleyan ministry than for the sober-sided Independent one."

PARSONS, THOMAS, who was born near Over, in Cheshire, is mentioned as a minister who in 1794 began to travel among the Wesleyan Methodists. A diligent, zealous, and evangelical preacher, his services were acceptable among the growing congregations of that respectable body. Of his usefulness there are ample testimonies; his piety and faith gave him all the encouragement he needed to persevere in the great work he had entered upon, and when it pleased the Master to afflict him with a long and weary illness, the truths he had preached to others became the sources from whence he drew abiding comfort for himself. He met death without murmuring, being wholly resigned to God's will, and able to welcome the coming

change, as a kind visitation of Providence, whereby he was to be removed from the church on earth to the glorious and ever abiding one in heaven. In 1807 he died "the death of the righteous."

PAYNE, JAMES, a Herefordian, who could both write and sing in praise of his "loved native home," was father to a gentleman of the same name, already mentioned. Our knowledge of him is scant; but humble though he was, his name made him a welcome guest, when the "noblemen and gentlemen of Herefordshire" thought it meet to render homage to the Cyder-land once a year in the great metropolis. They had a grand dinner in 1785, at the Crown and Rolls Tavern, Chancery Lane, London, when Lord Surrey presided, and upon that occasion—as on many more—Mr. Payne composed "An Historical Song on Herefordshire," which he sang *solo*, and soon afterwards it was printed with notes, and published at Hereford. This is not the only "Broadside sheet" published by the author, for there are four others of them not at all undeserving of honourable mention.

PEMBER, ROBERT, of the diocese of Hereford, was admitted fellow of S. John's College 26 July, 1524. He was the tutor of Roger Ascham, who highly commends his amenity of disposition and profound learning, especially in Greek. On the foundation of Trinity College, 1546, Pember was appointed one of the fellows, and he became the chief Greek reader there, the famous John Dee being at the same time under-reader. Latin poems on William Grindel and Martin Bucer are the only known productions of Pember's pen. He in 1555 subscribed the Roman Catholic articles then imposed on all graduates, and he died at Trinity College, 1560. He was born in Herefordshire, and belonged to a very genteel family long settled in that county, and it is not too much to say of him, that he did honour to his name, and added to the fame of the shire.

PEMBERTON, THOMAS, who was born in Shropshire in the year 1735, served as ensign, lieutenant, and captain in the 75th, 23rd, and 50th regiments respectively. After twenty-two years' service he retired in 1779, and settled in his native county, where for a long series of years he served his country well as a private gentleman. He was on board the Prince George when that ship took fire in the Bay of Biscay in 1758, and was one of the few survivors who had ventured into the long boat in the hope of escaping death. The boat was swamped, and he swam a distance of three miles to reach a sloop which happened to be in the bay at the time; the rope thrown out to him unfortunately got round his neck, and he was all but strangled on being hauled up to the deck of this vessel. In long years afterwards he used to relate his wonderful preservation from death by fire, water, and hanging all in one day, and the Providence which had thus befriended him in his youth never forsook him in after life, for he was able to attend to his many duties, with comfort to himself and to the great advantage of his neighbours down to 1807, when his eyesight began to fail, and for a time he was totally blind. He died at the College, Shrewsbury, in the year 1819, in the eighty-fourth year of his age.

PEMBERTON, THOMAS, eldest son of Robert Pemberton of Shrewsbury, was born in the year 1762, and was brought up the law. He had descended from the younger branch of the Pembertons of Wrockwardine, and upon the death of his father he succeeded to his estate, and lived at Millichope Hall and Belmont, Shrewsbury. He was recorder of Wenlock for some time, and, in succession to Sir Corbet Corbet, chairman of the Shropshire Quarter Sessions. He resigned that office in 1830 owing to a weak-

ness of sight, which prevented him taking notes, and the Hon. Thomas Kenyon succeeded him. He published in 1811 "An attempt to estimate the increase of the number of poor during the interval of 1785 and 1803, and the cause of it; with some observations on the depreciation of the currency," a work which commanded some attention at the time, although it did not influence the course of legislation. He died in 1833, aged seventy-one, and was buried at St. Alkmund's Church, Shrewsbury.

PEPYS, SIR LUCAS, Bart., a very distinguished native of Cheshire, who became eminent as one of the first medical men of his day. He was educated at Oxford and at Edinburgh, and eventually settled in London, and there rose to be Physician-in-Ordinary to the King. In 1804 he became President of the College of Physicians, holding that honourable post for seven years; then he was created a baronet, and had the position of Physician-Extraordinary to the King conferred upon him. He was a finished scholar, a perfect gentleman, an accomplished man, and at one time stood at the very top of his profession.

PERKS, GEORGE, T., was born at Madeley, Salop, in the year 1819. He entered the ministry in the year 1840, and after serving in several Methodist circuits, he was elected in 1872 to the office of Secretary to the Conference, and in the following year he was chosen President; holding at the same time the important office of Missionary Secretary. His name was well known throughout England, for he was an acceptable preacher, a kind, genial and warm hearted man, possessing in a marked degree the confidence of ministers and of the laity, and able therefore to exercise a beneficial influence in the counsels of the Methodist body, at a time when great organic changes were being promoted, which had for their main object the introduction of the lay element into the Conference. He died at Rotherham in May, 1877, aged fifty-eight years.

PHELPS, RICHARD, son of the Rev. George Phelps, curator of the College at Hereford, was born at Eye in that county. He was educated at Winchester school and at Oxford. After taking his Bachelor's degree he became travelling tutor to the Duke of Beaufort and some other young Englishmen, and proceeded with them to the Continent. In 1761 he was secretary to the British Legation at Turin, and in 1768 Provost Marshall of the Leeward Islands. He excelled as a scholar in modern languages; and in music he was a great proficient. It is stated in one account of him that he served as Under Secretary of State under Lord Sandwich. He wrote several letters from and upon Italy, which are said to have been both interesting and valuable; some specimens of his writings may be seen in Mr. Justice Hardinge's life of Sneyd Davies. He died in 1771.

PHILLIPS, FABIAN, son of John Phillips of Shrewsbury, is said upon fair authority to have been born in that town. He was a lawyer of some eminence in Queen Elizabeth's reign, and had served as second judge of North Wales for some time prior to 1584, when he resigned in favour of a Mr. Reynoldes, who was his friend. Sir Francis Walsingham had got him his place, and it is to him he applies for the reversion of it to Mr. Reynoldes. He says: "And for that I have not my health most commonly in traveling into those parties, I am the more willing to depart with the same, so as hit may come to his use, or otherwise not." We have been somewhat hard upon officers who sold their commissions; what must we say to honest Fabian, who for his health sake will give up his judgeship, if Mr. Reynoldes gets it, "otherwise not?" Sir Francis managed the business, "and Mr. Reynoldes got

the post;" Fabian, the money we opine, for his health improved quickly after that, and the Welsh did just as well under Reynoldes law as they had done under the Fabian one!

PHILLIPS, STEPHEN, born at Lugwardine, Herefordshire, in the year 1638, comes down to us with a loving remembrance as father to John Philips, who wrote "Cider" and some other poems of exquisite taste and value. He served in the Church with credit and acceptance as minister of Bampton in Oxfordshire (where his talented son was born), and also as Archdeacon of Salop, in the diocese of Hereford. He died at Bampton in the year 1684. Mr. Phillips could write poetry, and his latinity was excellent; but the son beat him in both, having the natural turn for the muse, and the advantage of the father's tuition in the classics.

PIGOT, JOHN, a native of Butley, in Cheshire, was seventh if not eighth in descent from George Pigot, lord of Broxton, who died in 1267. We find his name among the justices itinerant for his native county. He must, therefore, have been a person of consequence in more ways than one. That his family was highly respectable is shown by Ormerod in his great history of Cheshire, and the position he himself filled attests to his learning and the dignity of his character. He died in 1394.

PINDAR, SIR PETER, Bart. This gentleman is supposed to have been born in Cheshire, being of Edinshaw, in that county. He is described as a "Barrister at Law of ye Inner Temple London (and) Recorder of ye ancient Corporation of Great Wenlock in ye County of Salop." He was living in 1663, and derived from the Pindars of Northamptonshire. It is fairly doubted whether our worthy did fill the office of recorder as stated above, for he was collector of customs at Chester, and we much question if the governors of the long-robed fraternity at that period would permit a member of the profession to act as a judge one day, and sit at the seat of custom the next. It is, of course, different now, when men go to the bar for status, gaining their bread by other means, but in 1663 a barrister was supposed to be a lawyer, the lawyer a gentleman, and the gentleman too fine a personage to soil his fingers in the pursuit of money, except at the Bar. Sir Peter, at his death, left a son, Paul, to succeed to his honours, and when he died so did the baronetcy.

PLATT, GEORGE, who was born at Arnfield, in Cheshire, in the year 1789, will be identified for all time with Robert Moffat, John Williams, and other English missionaries, who in very early times proceeded to distant lands to preach the gospel to the heathen. He was ordained at Surrey Chapel, London, in the year 1816, and at once proceeded to Polynesia, where he and his companions arrived the following year. In 1824 he settled at Boraborans, and there he remained till 1833, when he took up his abode at Riatae, where he remained till 1856, and then returned to England for rest and repose. In 1859 or 1860, he returned to the South Seas, and continued to labour in the missionary field to his death in 1865. Who can tell the good he did? We know something of the marvellous changes that have taken place in the character of the South Sea Islanders, but to appreciate at its full value the beneficial reign of grace is not ours; that is to come, as come it will, for religion cannot leave any barren round behind it. Witnessing generation after generation will tell how religion alone can reclaim men from the worst propensities of our fallen nature, and make them meet for the inheritance of the saints in heaven; and how it also civilizes man, converting him into a reasonable being, and

so fitting him to benefit his race, and to become a good seed plant for posterity.

POOLE, JOHN, son of Thomas Poole of Poole, in Cheshire, and grandson of Sir William Poole, Sheriff of Cheshire, 19 Henry VIII., was born at the family seat in that county, and secured for his name a notoriety, which has given it a niche in local history. Thomas Salisbury of Lleweni, in Denbighshire, had fallen madly in love with Mary Stuart, and although he was, through his mother, of the Queen's kindred, he so far forgot his duty to her Majesty as to become implicated in the Babington conspiracy to put her to death. When this became known, he had to fly to divers places for refuge, but the blood hounds were upon him, and so must he continue his flight; in his great extremity he escaped to Frodsham, but John Poole was in search of him, caught him, and then handed him over to justice. He was found guilty of at least a knowledge of the conspiracy, and was justly executed for his offence; the sad part of the story being that Poole and he were bosom friends at one time, but we are bound to honour the loyalty of a man who failed to see it was his duty to shield a traitor, even in the person of a friend. He died in 1613, and was buried at Eastham.

POPE, ROGER, who in 1536, 1546, and 1552, served as bailiff of his native town of Shrewsbury, had probably followed the religious moods of his sovereign lord and king from 1536 to 1547, when Henry died. The death of Henry, we are told, "was the signal for the commencement of the reformation" at Shrewsbury, which must surely mean that the good people of that loyal town took their religion from their monarch. In the last year of Pope's official life "the pecture of our lady out of St. Mary's, and the pecture of Mary Mawdelen, and the pecture of St. Chadde's owt of St. Chadd's Church, were all three burnyd in the Market-place, commonly called the Corne Market," Edward at that time being king. Mr. Blakeway surmises that this was done by order of the visitors, but we should conclude that Bailiff Pope did it with a willing mind enough, for neither he nor his co-officers in the Principality had any particular love for the old ecclesiastical authorities, who had on more than one occasion claimed supremacy in some parts of his Bailiwick. We cannot blame our worthy for his over-zeal in the work of demolition, that being the religion of the day; a hundred years later altars, crucifixes, and even monuments fell under the avenging hands of Puritan spoliators, but we may through him mark the growth of that secular influence which helped to convert Catholic England into the leading Protestant state in Europe.

POPE, THOMAS, a gentleman of considerable eminence in the days of Henry VIII., who is claimed by Hertfordshire, but who was in fact a native of Herefordshire and a warm supporter of Henry Tudor. He settled in London, and "got his share at the dissolution of the Abbeys, and refunded a considerable proportion of what he received for the building and endowing of Trinity College, in Oxford." He died about the beginning of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. There are in Oxfordshire many descendants from him continuing in a worshipful estate, the chief of the family being the Earl of Down in Ireland. "On the same token that King James came in Progress to the House of Sir Thomas Pope, Knight, when his lady was lately delivered of a daughter, who was presented to King James with this paper of verses:—

See this little Mistress here
Did never sit in Peter's chair;
Or a Triple Crown did wear,
And yet she is a Pope.

No Benifice she ever sold
Nor did dispense with Sins for Gold,
She hardly is a Sevenight Old
And yet she is a Pope.

No King her Feet did ever kiss
Or had from her worse Look than this,
Nor did she ever hope
To Saint one with a Pope
And yet she is a Pope.

A Female Pope you'll say, A Second JOAN
No sure she is Pope Innocent or none."

POWELL, CHRISTOPHER, a native of Herefordshire, was admitted a subsizar of St. John's College, Cambridge, in 1577, having matriculated in March, 1577-8. He was B.A. 1580-1, and in 1584 was admitted a fellow on the lady Margaret's foundation. In the same year he commenced M.A., and in 1591 proceeded B.D. He was elected a college preacher 1593. In 1595 he was collated by Archbishop Whitgift to the vicarage of Rainham in Kent. The following inscription is on a flat stone within the altar rails on the south side of the church of Rainham:—

Here lieth the body of Mr. Christopher Powell, bachelor in divinity, Fellow of St. John's College in Cambridge, and vicar of this parish of Rainham. He entered his charge the 6th of July, 1595. And dying in the faith of Christ was here interred the tenth of January, 1609. His second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of George Wilkins of Stoke, gent., hath caused this memorial of him to be made.

POWELL, EDWARD, a Herefordian by birth and a Roman Catholic by profession, was bold and honest enough to deny Bluff Harry's supremacy in matters of faith, and a sufficiently good and true man to adhere to the Pope, at a time when the first act of daring was adjudged to be high treason, and the last a sin. We may hope that he was fortunate enough to get away to some foreign refuge where his life would be safe, but we know that he was attainted for his crime and of course adjudged an heretic. We need not discuss the merits of this case; it is enough to know that here and there in Henry's time even good men were to be met with in England who had a far higher reverence for conscience than they had for the kingly power. It was too much the fashion then to submit in all things to the ordinances of men, and to disregard those of God; but when life, liberty and property were at stake in taking up the other ground, those who risked them all for Christ, deserve to be held in esteem by men of all creeds, and Mr. Powell came up to that high standard, and is, therefore, entitled to rank among the worthiest of Border Counties Worthies accordingly.

POWIS, THOMAS, was a native of Chepstow, in Monmouthshire, but he carried on the successful business of a vintner at Enfield in Middlesex, where he acquired a considerable fortune. He did not let his affection for his native land grow cold, for in 1716, "by his sole charity, and from a regard he had for the place in which he was born, he erected and endowed an alms house at Chepstow for the reception and maintenance of six poor men and six poor women inhabitants of that parish for ever." It is said of him that Monmouthians who had settled in London "found in him a kind and generous friend, who helped them on in life, and encouraged them to give their children the benefit of a sound and religious education, assisting the poor to do so, in the first instance. He then found suitable situations for them, so as to place them on the highway to prosperity." This virtue has been characteristic of the Welsh in all ages, and is indicative of that "clanship," so common to all Celtic nations.

POWIS, SIR THOMAS, was born at Berwick, Near Shrewsbury, and in 1662 he became a scholar at Shrews-

bury School, and was afterwards educated for the law, in which profession he became very highly distinguished. In 1686 he was appointed Solicitor General, then rose to be Attorney General, Queen's Sergeant, and a judge of the Queen's Bench. Prior says of him, that "nothing equalled his knowledge except his eloquence. Nothing excelled both except his justice, and whether he was greater as an advocate or a judge is the only cause he left undecided." He died in 1719.

POWYS, THOMAS, of Hardwick near Shrewsbury, who died suddenly in September, 1774, was born in Shropshire. He had descended from a very ancient and honourable stock, and was himself a fine example of the old English gentleman of the last century. He was the intimate friend and companion of Richard Hill of Hawkstone, who in his fragmentary papers, dwells upon his many virtues with the kindest affection. There is one point of great interest in his character—his personal piety, a feature not too often found in the lives of the gentlemen of his day. He was no silly zealot who pretended to have found a new way to heaven, but a zealous Christian wayfarer, who followed as closely as he could in the footsteps of the great Master; humble in his demeanour to all, his beneficence and charity to the poor, avouched the high principles which governed his conduct. His life was pure, his conversation chaste, his faith in God supreme, and when death summoned him home, he died, as he had lived, looking to the Saviour, and to that everlasting life beyond the grave, which he was to enjoy with Christ in heaven.

PRESCOT, KELSALL, born at Stockport, Cheshire, in the year 1787, proceeded to Brazenose College, Oxford, for his education, where he acquired some distinction as a scholar. He was afterwards ordained a minister of the Church of England, and very soon gave proof of his fitness for that office by his quickened interest in the welfare of the poor neglected sons of toil. He was possessed of the true missionary spirit, endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of men first, and then to elevate their thoughts to the contemplation of God's mercy and goodness to all people. Much of his time was taken up in the formation of Sabbath Schools, and in gathering into them the waifs and strays of society. "He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all," and his efforts were happily crowned with most abundant success. This good man died in 1823, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.

PRINCE, RICHARD, son of John Prince, was born at Shrewsbury in the early part of the sixteenth century, and Mr. Owen, in his interesting history of that town, alludes to him in very handsome terms. He must have been a serviceable man, for the Wardens of the Abbey Church granted to him in 1551 "in consideration of the good service, labour, and travvll of the said R. P. heretofore had and done to the said parishioners in tyme of ncessyte, concernynge the parishe church aforesaid, two chambers with the appurtenances, seyuate over the north dore of the parishe church aforesaid," for the purposes of a study, as Mr. Owen thinks, he being at the time preparing himself for the legal profession. He was admitted a student of the Inner Temple in 1554, and it is fairly concluded that he succeeded in his profession, for he soon began to acquire lands, and eventually he became the owner of considerable estates. His native town must have been dear to him, for in 1578 he commenced building "a famous house in the Abbey Foregate, near the Abbot's house," well known as the White Hall, which took four years in its erection. Churchyard alludes to it as so trim and fine a dwelling "that it graceth all the soyle it is in," and ever since his name has commanded special mention in all the local histories of the town. Mr. Prince's posterity

continued in the male line for three generations, then a daughter carried the "famous house" by marriage to the Astley family, and eventually the Earl of Tankerville, grandson to this Lady Astley, became its owner. How high Mr. Prince rose in the law we know not, but his local claim to notice is a sufficient warrant for alluding to him in these records.

PRITCHARD, ARTHUR, a native of Herefordshire, who flourished in the latter part of the sixteenth century, was noted as a Bard, but all his writings were in the ancient British language. A large volume of his pieces in MSS. had been collected, arranged, and carefully preserved by Mr. Thomas Jones, and some of his handwork has been printed by the late John Jones of Llanrwst. He died in 1610, and according to common report was buried at Hereford.

PRITCHARD, EDWARD, who was buried at Whittington, Salop, in the year 1748, must have been a strange character. He was born in 1670, within the borders of Shropshire, where he followed the calling of a surgeon, being accounted clever in his art, but for many years of his life he was known as an accomplished highwayman, and the head of a gang who committed great depredations upon the public. He never allowed any of his neighbours to be molested, but strangers he had no mercy upon. How he escaped detection is wonderful, for his fame was universal. Long before his death he gave up his wicked practices and satisfied his conscience with the reflection "that he had never committed murder"; and dying peaceably in his bed, at the great age of seventy-eight, 'tis said, his neighbours "mourned for him as for a friend!"

PROBY, SIR PETER, a Salopian by birth, and one of the fortunate adventurers who hastened to London to court fortune in the good old times when men grew honestly rich. He is enrolled as a member of the Grocers' Company, an Alderman of Queenhithe, Sheriff of London in 1614, and Lord Mayor in 1622. *Maitland* states that he had been appointed "Governor of the Colony of Ulster in Ireland, by a special commission from the King and City of London (and) repaired thither attended by divers of the most eminent citizens for regulating certain affairs belonging to the plantation, taking along with him two rich swords of state as a present from the city, to be carried before the Mayors of Londonderry and Colerain, the former whereof being by the King some time before erected into a city, and the latter into a Corporate town." There are several scattered notices of him to be met with, and we conclude from a perusal of them that he was possessed of considerable abilities, and that he stood very high in public esteem.

PUGH, CHARLES, a printer at Hereford, was, according to a document signed by Mr. Heath, a native of that county, and most deserving of mention as the founder of *The Hereford Journal* in August, 1770. He died probably in 1788, for his sister carried the paper on for some weeks in that year, when it passed into the hands of John Duncomb, M.A., who conducted and printed it till June, 1791. Mr. David Walker succeeded him, and he carried it on till March, 1802, when it fell into the hands of Mr. Wright, who acted as editor and publisher. It is not too much to say of any respectably conducted newspaper that it is a great educational instrument and a defence against oppression. Any man who risks money in the promotion of so valuable an instrument for good, is deserving of all honour as a public benefactor. Mr. Pugh, as one of the earliest of such patriots, is especially to be commended to public notice in any work relating to the Border Counties of Wales.

PUGH, THEOPHILUS, was born at Shrewsbury in 1801, and in 1826 he was ordained by the Methodists as a missionary to the West Indies. His labours in those Islands are referred to with great approbation. When in 1843 he returned to his native land, he was welcomed to the home service, and was appointed to various circuits in succession, and sometimes he filled the dignified office of Chairman of District. In 1865 he was put on the list of supernumeraries, and thenceforth to 1874, when he died, he served his denomination with acceptance, and was greatly honoured by all his brethren. If the readers of these records would desire to know the condition of the West India possessions in the early days of the present century, let them read *Crowther's Life of Dr. Coke*, and they can then better appreciate the labours of men like Mr. Pugh, who for Christ's sake, gave up everything that is dear to most men, for the good of the heathen.

NOVEMBER 5, 1879.

NOTES.

THE OSWESTRY "JUSTICE."—From the period that Charles II. gave us a Mayor, down to the time that a rude Act of Parliament took away from him much of his dignity; during the year after he served the office he was not called the Ex-Mayor (in his judicial capacity), but "the Justice." Thus, in 1804, amongst the Committee of Management of the Association for the Prevention of Crime, we have "The Mayor and Justice of Oswestry." He also served as Coroner during the year following the one on which he was Mayor. Permanent Justices and Coroners were appointed under the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835, and from that time "the Ex-Mayor" ranks as the junior on the Bench and the Coroner is not a magistrate. JARCO.

QUERIES.

CHURCH BELLS (Aug. 27, 1879.)—*Hordley* Church (near Ellesmere) is in process of restoration, a little Norman Church of 1150–1200 probably. One of the two bells seems to be co-eval with the Church, and has this inscription: "Sancta Trinitas ora pro nobis." Can any one furnish a parallel to such a curious invocation? CUCULLUS.

MOTTO OF SHREWSBURY SCHOOL.—When visiting Shrewsbury some weeks ago, I copied down the following motto from over the principal entrance, exactly as here transcribed, except that the original is in capitals:

φιλομαθῆς ἐὰν ᾖ ἐσὶ πολλυμαθῆς.

I thought it strange that such forms as

ᾖ for ᾖ's and ἐσὶ for ἐσῃ

should occur in the motto of a school that has been so long deservedly celebrated for proficiency in Greek. I am curious to know whether any one else ever noticed these errors and called attention to them?

In *Notes and Queries*.

C.S.J.

REPLIES.

MAENATTYN (Oct. 15, 1879).—Almost without exception a name of a person follows Maen and Llan. For instance, Maen Twrog, Maen Gwynedd, Maen Efa, Flintshire, Maen Llia (or Leo), Maen Arthur in numerous places, and Maen Tysilio, a public house until lately at Rhiwlas, near Oswestry. Attny, in Maen Attny, is probably a person's name. The church of Sylattyn (also spelt Selattyn and Yslattyn) appears as well to have retained the name, and both places are within a few miles to

each other. If "sylfaen" is a foundation stone, "syl" and "sail" must alike mean foundation. Sylattyn then without doubt will be a place founded by Attyn or Hattyn. Whether he was a priest in Masonry (Maenyddiaeth) or a Druid, or an early Christian missionary, I will not venture to conjecture, but no doubt he was a person connected with one of the three religions named. One of our old proverbs, "Da yw'r Maen gyda'r Efengyl," or, "It is well to combine the stone (Maen) with the Gospel," seems to refer to that period of transition from the old heathen religion of the holy "maen" into that of the holy Cross. As a key to the word Sylattyn, I thank your correspondent for the attention he has called to the Maen of the same name, of which I had never heard. JESSIE H.

NOVEMBER 12, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Oct. 29, 1879.)

This week we give the first acknowledgment recorded of the possession of the Charter of James I. Ed.

Decimo quarto die Octobris
Anno D'ni 1620

M'd. that we Thomas Stoney and Thomas Iveson Esquires have the daye & yeare above written Received by the hands of Richard Jones and Hugh Muckleston gent. late Bayliffs the Charters books & other minymts followinge. (viz)

A. Ch're graunted byking Richard the Second, and other ffyve ch'res w'the Charter gw'tta

The book of Constitution

It. one Charter of Thomas Earle of Arundel and Surrey.

The hall elne and yard & the towne Seale

The Burgess booke

A confession of our liberties in queene Elizabeths time xli'jo

9 Leases of the scoole lands for xxix yeares in a blacke boxe

The bookes of pleading about the quo warranto

And a Charter now graunted by his m'iestie

Two old auncient leases

Articles made between Richard Drihurst & Ric. Lloyd, and John Kyffin upon his admittance Schoolmaster

Breeses of agreem'ts touchinge the pr'curinge of the newe charter

Copie of a feofment of a mill in measburie

One Silver Cup beinge the gift of Hugh midelton Esquire one paire of Shackells

Two paire of Bolts

one great chaine

xxx'o die octobris 1620.

Md. That William Cowp'r and Hughe Cadwalader esquires have receaved the daye and yeere aforesayd by the hands of Thomas Stoney and Thomas Iveson gen't late Bailiffs the Charters books and other mynym'ts following viz:

Imprimis one Ch're graunted by our gracious kinge James, &c.

It. one Ch're graunted by king Richard the Second.

It. other ffyve ch'res w'th the litle Ch're graunted by Gruffith Penrvas. *

It. the confession of the liberties

It. the book of constitution

It. the lease of towne graunted by my L: of Suffolke

* This "Charter Gw'tta" (of which the text was given Jan. 1, 1879) is, in all the other lists we have given, stated to have been granted by William Fitzalan. Who was the "fat-headed" Gruffith?

It. the boxe wherein are containyd the school leases

It. the Burgess great Book

It. the towne Seale

It. one half elle of Iron

It. one Standard or Iron yard

It. one marking Iron called the comon seale for measures

It. one Bowlt of Iron w'th one halberd

Decimo die December 1624.

Memorandum that wee Thomas Iveson and Richard Cowper esquires Bayliffes of the Towne of Oswestry have upon the day and yere aforesaid Received by the hands of Roger williames and William Thomas esquires late Baylives th'on The Ch'res books and mynym'ts above mencioned except ij'o leases made between Richard Drihurst and John Kyffin.

viessimmo primo die Octobris 1625/

Memorandum that wee John Blo'well & Richard wicherley bayliffes of the towne of Oswestrie the daye and yere aforesaid received of Thomas Iveson and Richard Cowp'r late bayliffes of the said towne,—the Ch'res bookes and mynym'ts lastlie menc'ved to be deliv'ed unto them ./

QUERIES.

GREGYNOG.—The seat of Lord Sudeley stands at the foot of a hill called Gregynog, and that hill at one time abounded with *grug* or heath. Can that be the meaning of Gregynog, as Clynnog (Celynog) is derived from celyn or holly? JESSIE.

REPLIES.

MATTERLESS (Oct. 1. 1879).—I have no means of knowing in what part of Shropshire this word is used, but the word "Difatter," which is literally the same, is commonly used in Wales, and would, for instance, fittingly describe the character of Hamlet, who to all intents and purposes was difatter=matterless, after the revelation made to him by his father's ghost. BONNW.

NAME OF AUTHOR WANTED. (Sept. 17, Oct. 22, 1879).—IDNERTH assumes (but why?) that the couplet in question is a complete sentence; and on the contrary, I assumed that it was only a fragment of an Englyn or a Cywydd. In the former case, it is, of course, ungrammatical, but surely there is no occasion to assume that the poet committed a breach of any rule of grammar unless it can be shewn that any other explanation is impossible. Assuming as I do that the sentence is incomplete, suppose for the present we complete it thus:—

[Ceir clywed]

Affonydd dwrf olwynion

A drystantyn mhalant Môn.

(The restless noise of wheels that clatter on Mona's pavement *shall be heard.*)

In such a sentence the word "olwynion" (wheels), not "twrf" (noise), would be, evidently, the nominative to the verb "trystiant" (clatter). R.W.

The couplet in question is to be found in an ode by the late Rev. E. Evans ("Teuan Glan Geirionydd") on the visitation of Geo. IV. to the Isle of Anglesey. The following is the stanza of which the lines form part:—

Cerbydau gorau pob gwron,—rhuant

Megis rheideir mawrion,

Affonydd dwrf olwynion

A drystanty' mhalant Môn.

(See 'Geirionydd' p. 85.)

I am inclined to think the word 'twrf,' although properly speaking a substantive, is here used adjectively; nouns are sometimes used as adjectives in Welsh; *taran dwrf, a loud noise; awyr fynydd, a high mountain*; and many other instances may be given. M.O.

CURRENT NOTES.

At a recent entertainment at Bwlchgwyn, the Rev. T. R. Lloyd (Estyn) said he thought what was called the "bi-lingual difficulty" in Wales wanted re-christening. Enough of rubbish had been talked about this subject under the old name. Perhaps if the subject was re-named the "bi-lingual benefit," or the "bi-lingual God-send," we might profit considerably by the change. Relatively speaking there was no "bi-lingual difficulty" in Wales in the sense that there was a difficulty in most English counties—Derbyshire, Lancashire, or Yorkshire, for instance, where the educated classes spoke pure English and the uneducated masses spoke a provincial dialect or jargon of their own. In Wales what English was spoken by the masses was, as a rule, pure English, because it was book-English, acquired in school. That a Welsh child knew Welsh only when it began to learn English in school was a great gain. You could begin to teach the child with a clean slate. There was nothing to rub out. But just fancy the "bi-lingual difficulty" which must mar education in Lancashire when you had to teach English to a child who had already learnt it in this fashion, "Aw're uset aw could ha' swallut it as cowl as snow-bos." The existence of Welsh as the vernacular language among the uneducated masses in Wales, enabled us to teach Welshmen pure, classical, book-English, which could scarcely be done with the like ease in any other portion of the empire. If clergymen, ministers, and schoolmasters would only seize the opportunity afforded them, they had now with all our new educational facilities an opportunity to impart a knowledge of pure English among Welshmen. There never was such a golden opportunity offered to any people of acquiring a great and a useful language in all its elegance and purity as was now afforded to Welshmen of acquiring English under this regime of what was termed a "bi-lingual difficulty."

NOVEMBER 19, 1879.

NOTES.

ORIGINAL LETTERS WRITTEN BY THE LADIES OF LLANGOLLEN.

(July 9, 1879.)

The following letter is written some eight years after the date of the one we gave May 14, and when it was penned "Mr." had become "Sir Richard" Puleston. It purports to be the joint production of The Ladies. We have copied it from the Peniarth MSS. ED.

"We must add a little more—Dear Lady Puleston—to the many worries we have already occasioned you & Dear Sir Richard. We are grieved at the trouble—of our Messenger's having presumed to take up his residence at Emral Hall—and distressed at your having remunerated the Urchin so magnificently—his acceptance of which was so contrary to our instructions—and disgraceful without being of 6d. advantage in pecuniaries to us.

"We are truly grateful for the lovely little Rose—which seems already reconciled to its new situation—as we have encouraged it to hope—it may be honoured one day—by a visit—from its amiable and generous former

mistress—who we trust cannot doubt of the attention with which its culture and comfort shall be attended to.

"We can only acknowledge—Sir Richard's *Imperial* present by assuring him in the first place—that it appears to us—the most beautiful liquid—we were ever yet introduced to—under any Roof but that 'till we have again the happiness of receiving him here—except the entertainment of some Royal Guest should intervene—it shall remain [] by us—though in the mean time—the Healths and Happiness can be drank—or wished—with more fervent interest in their long, *long* continuance—than those of both—our valued friends at Emral—by Dear Lady Puleston—Sir Richard and your own truly affectionate and obliged

"ELEANOR BUTLER & S. PONSONBY.

"Plasnewydd, Llangollen, 27th March 1822.

"We entreat our most particular regards to Miss Oakley."

QUERIES.

JOHN BRADBRIDGE.—In the list of new members of the Oswestry Association for the Prosecution of Felons, published in Dec. 1805, appears the name of "John Bradbridge, Esq., Llanymynech." Was he the gentleman who succeeded Mr. Newenham, sen., as captain of the Oswestry Volunteer Artillery in 1804? The question has already been asked—but not answered—who were the Newenham's? JARCO.

REPLIES.

SALOPIAN TOPOGRAPHY (Oct. 22, 1879).—There is a work in the Liverpool Free Library containing 43 plates drawn and etched by W. Pearson. I am unable to say if it is the same that "J.L.R." refers to, but it includes all the views mentioned by him. There is neither preface or note of any kind to show under what circumstances the book was issued. It commences with a view of the Gateway in the Water Lane, Shrewsbury, which forms the frontispiece, and ends with one of Millechope Hall. The following is a copy of the title page—"A Selection of Antiquities in the County of Salop, comprising the Principal Churches, Castles, Religious Houses, and other ancient Buildings, with Topographical accounts of each view. London, Printed for Edward Jeffery and Son, Pall Mall, MDCCCXXIV." SAXON.

OLD COACHING DAYS (Oct. 22, 1879).—No notice of Old Coaching Days in Shropshire would be complete without some reference to the Hon. Thomas Kenyon. By the merest accident in the world a Shrewsbury paper of 1833 passed through my hands the other day, but not before I had noted down the following:—"On the 17th Dec. the marriage of the Rev. John Hill of Hawkstone, to Miss Kenyon, daughter of the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, of the Pradeo, was commemorated by Mr. Taylor by decorating with white favours all the mail coaches that went in and out of Shrewsbury."

WYLE COP.

I never intimated that Flying Waggon's were called Coaches. The Waggon in question had a seat in front whereon the driver sat and any passenger he chose to give a ride during his long journey to Bangor. J.W.

The "Flying Waggon's" advertised by Hearne and Co. of Gloucester in 1805 were not the first of their kind,

as the following (from the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* of Nov. 12, 1774) will shew :—

LONDON and SHREWSBURY
FLYING WAGGON,
(In FOUR DAYS and a HALF)

SETS out from the Castle and Falcon, in Aldersgate street, London, every Monday Morning early; and will be in Shrewsbury by Ten o'Clock on Friday Morning, time enough to forward Goods to the different Carriers to Oswestry, Welch-Pool, Bishop's-Castle, and all North Wales; Ellesmere, Wem, Church-Stretton, and other Parts of Shropshire.—Returns from our Warehouse in Mardol, Shrewsbury, every Tuesday Morning early, which will give the Gentlemen and Tradesmen an Opportunity of sending their Goods in all Day on Monday, which will be in London every Saturday Morning by Twelve o'Clock.

Constant Attendance will be given at the said Castle and Falcon Inn, to take in Goods, till Ten o'Clock every Saturday Night; so that the Public are desired to inform their Correspondents to send in their Goods intended to come by this Waggon, by that Hour; and at our Warehouse in Shrewsbury, till Nine o'Clock on Monday Night, by

JOHN BATHER.
THOMAS POWELL.

The Proprietors will not be answerable for any Money, Jewels, Plate, or Writings, unless entered as such, and Paid for accordingly.

1 The SLOW WAGGON goes as usual, by the Way of Shifnal, Wolverhampton, Walsal, and Coventry; and sets out every Wednesday Morning.

N.B.—The Oswestry, Welch-Pool, and Ellesmere Waggon, all wait at Salop, till the Flying Waggon comes in; the Goods for each Place are immediately Loaded, and Delivered on Friday Night, at the aforementioned Towns: Distance 173 Miles in 5 Days.

It will be seen by this that these conveyances were called "Flying" to distinguish them from the "Slow" waggon, and were established for other goods besides "Cheshire Cheese."

SALOPIAN.

NOVEMBER 26, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Nov. 12, 1879).

Our instalment this week contains some curious entries, showing the relative charges for indulging in "Bloody" and "Dry frayes." An affray in which blood was drawn seems to have cost just twice as much as one that ended more harmlessly. Then there is an entry in which a thief was eased by the authorities of money and gloves he could not account for.

ED.

26th October 1626.

M'd. Theodore Trevor and Edd Thomas Bailiffs of the towne of Oswestrie for this present yeare have received from Mr. Blodwell & Mr. Wicherley the late Bailiffs the phrnlais [Query, 'paraphernalias,?'] & ch'res following, viz.

King James Ch're
King Richard the, 2, Ch'ree
Thomas Earle of Arundell Ch'rees
Another three from Thomas Earle of Arundel
William Earle of Arundel Ch'ree & the Book of Con-
stitution
The confession of the lib'tyes, & 3, other small Ch'res
beinge in a round boxe
The towne Seale
10 leazes beinge in a blacke boxe of the schoole lands,
Mr, Kyfins bond & Articles

A bundell of papers concern'g the suit about the comens-
called Kyrn' 2 briefs w'th other plead'gs up' Quo-
warranto
one half elle & jron yard : two locks & keys, w'th the
great chest
the towne scale

Bailiffs

Theodore Trevor
Edd. Thomas.

The account of Harry Blodwell. one of the bayliffs for the yeare of our Lord God 1633—made in open Electio' the 14th of Aprill 1635.

Received of Richard Peirce of Llavechen the 30. of October for adrye fraye made upon Ievan ap Hughe I saye Received ... iijs. iiijd.

Received the 11th of December 1633 of Thomas ap Hughe for adrye fraye. made upon Richard Phillips of wotton the afore said night I saye Receaved ... iijs. iiijd.

Received the last of December 1633 of Robert ap David mylles for a dry fraye made on Richard the sonne of Tho: moris ... iijs. iiijd.

Received of Richard Myles for a bloodie fraye made on Leonard Gough the some of ... vjs. viijd.

Received the 5 of August 1634 of Ievan David ap Owen for adrie fraye made on . . the sonne of ... iijs. iiijd.

Taken from phillip Williams a theefe supposed of kerrige ye dradion the some of vjs., w'ch money I found he had more then he ought to have by his examination I saye Rec. & taken the some of ... vjs.

more iij p're of gloves taken from him of felon goodes and these gloves d'd [delivered]

I.mr. Harry Blodwell.

Rec. by me John payne Receiver to my Lo: of Suffolke Sixtene shillings Deliv'red to me as belonging to my Lord out of the moneys above written in in Harry Blodwell his accompte xij'e die Aprilis 1635

John Payne

Rec. also three paires of playne gloves taken w'th a supposed felon by the said Harrie above mencioned in his accompt

William Thomas }
Edward Davies } John Payne.
Burgesses.

QUERIES.

NEW RAIL-ROAD INVENTION.—"A rail-road is now at work on a new principle belonging to the Penclawdd Copper-works, said to be invented by Mr. Thomas Jones. Its capability of obviating friction renders it much superior to those in general use. The construction is that of an edge rail, a yard of which is nearly half as light as those now made, and it has been found capable of carrying the usual weight required." So says the *Salopian Journal* for Oct. 9, 1805. Where were the Penclawdd Copper-works, and who was Mr. Thomas Jones?

N.W.S.

REPLIES.

ADERYN-Y-CORPH (Aug. 27, 1879).—The same Mr. Davies I have previously quoted seems to have been highly favoured in his experiences with corpse-candles, and I cannot resist one other instance, which I take from the same source as the former ones :—

About thirty-three or thirty-four years since, returning home (on a Tuesday) from Cardigan, where I had been to preach the

Session sermon, it being as light as noon, there seemed twice or thrice from behind me, on my right side between my shoulder and my hat, to fly a little whitish thing, about the bigness of a walnut, and that once in seventy or eighty paces. At first I took no notice of it. By degrees it waxed reddish, and as the night came on, appeared like pure fire both for light and colour. I turned about, to see from whence it came, and whether it would flash in my face, but I could see nothing; yet when I turned homewards it flashed as before, till I came to a village called Lanristid, where as yet I did not intend to lodge. In passing by a house the fire flashed upon or very near the threshold, and there I think it lodged, for I saw it no more. I still thought of going home; but on reflecting that hereby I might tempt God, I returned to the furthest lodging in the town; and after a little rest I told my host of my vision. The next day he communicated the same to some persons who were going to the Sessions, by which means the Judge became acquainted with it. At which sessions one John William Lloyd, gentleman, who lived near Glasterig, fell sick, and in going home was taken with such a violent paroxysm, that he could ride no further than the house where I left the fire, and he died about four days after.

All this took place quite a hundred and twenty-five years ago. Mr. Davies seems to have had a long experience in these manifestations, for thirty or forty years after the occurrence just related he says "some candles have been seen to come to my church, within these three weeks, and the corpse not long after." SCEPTIC.

GRIFFITH ROBERTS'S WELSH GRAMMAR.

(Oct. 29, 1879.)

The *Academy* (Oct. 25) says:—"The earliest grammar of the Welsh language, that by Griffith Roberts, is now being re-printed at Paris for M. Gaidoz, as a supplement to the *Revue Celtique*. Some correspondence has recently appeared in *Bye-gones* on this curious relic. Only one perfect copy is known, that in the possession of Sir Watkin W. Wynn, but there is one nearly complete in the British Museum. The place where the grammar was printed has been a matter of considerable discussion, owing to a strange theory started by the late Sir A. Panizzi. Griffith Roberts was resident at Milan, where he was the Confessor of St. Charles Borromeo. The grammar appeared without any imprint, and merely the date '1567, Primo Martij.' There is, however, the express testimony of his contemporary, Dr. J. D. Rhys, that it was printed at *Mediolanum*, the Latinised form of the name of the city where Roberts is known to have been resident. The book has, moreover, all the aspect of Continental typography. Panizzi, however, insisted that it had been printed in Wales at the *Mediolanum* named in the Antonine Itineraries, a locality not precisely settled by modern antiquaries. The letter of Sir A. Panizzi and the Right Hon. C. W. Wynn are given in full in *Bye-gones*, and show the odd spectacle of an Italian bibliographer contending that the Griffith Roberts grammar was printed in Wales, against the universal opinion of the Cambro-Britons that it was the product of an Italian press. The question was, however, set at rest by the late Mr. Thomas Watts, who has decisively confirmed the belief that Italy gave birth to the first systematic treatise of the language of the bards and Druids."

In confirmation of the fact that "Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar" was printed at Milan, and not in Wales, Prince Louis-Lucien Bonaparte writes to the *Academy* of Nov. 1, to say that he possesses a little book unnoticed by Rowlands, which is also by Griffith Roberts, entitled "*Athrawaeth Gristnogawl*." This is a small octavo pamphlet, at the end of the dedication of which are these words "O dref. Fylen, noswyl S. Nicolas"="From home, Milan, eve of St. Nicholas; and, at the end of the last page, "Ymylen, 1568, drwgwyl S. Nicolas,"=At Milan, 1568, festival of St.

Nicholas. Prince Bonaparte also calls attention to the fact that (as in the "*Grammar*") the "letters *dd, ff, ll*, and *w* are replaced by the underdotted *d, l, u*, and by the *ph*." The author's name, "*Gruphydd fab Rhobert*" appears at the beginning of his dedicatory letter to M. Morys Clynoc.

Mr. Silvan Evans, in the *Academy* of Nov. 8, says, "Having contributed a few items to the discussion lately carried on in *Bye-gones* respecting Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar, I cannot but feel much interested by the communication of Prince L. L. Bonaparte. I need no confirmation that the book in question was printed in Italy and not in Wales, but I am especially indebted to the Prince for the information which he gives regarding another work by the same author." Mr. Silvan Evans goes on to say that fifty years later another book appeared under the title of "*Athrawaeth Gristnogawl*" by Cardinal Bellarmin, translated, as was alleged, by Dr. Roger Smith, and printed on the continent. This has been described in the *Cambrian Bibliography*, and there is a copy in the British Museum. Mr. Silvan Evans also says that "O dref. Fylen" simply means "from the town of Milan."

Prince L. L. Bonaparte, in a letter to the editor of *Bye-gones*, dated Nov. 10, says, "As I am myself one of the possessors of Griffith Roberts's Welsh Grammar, I take much interest in these details. My copy, however, is very imperfect, and consists only in the first part and of 92 pages, but not complete; and in the 56 pages (Symblen) of the fourth part." The Prince also informs us that he has called Mr. Silvan Evans's attention to the "peculiar circumstance of the '*Athrawaeth*' being the only Welsh work in which the name of Milan is clearly given, at the colophon, as the place of imprint;" and adds, "This renders it very interesting for the Welsh Bibliographer, independently, (and I insist on this point) of the further interest attached to it by the name of its author." ED.

CURRENT NOTES.

At the annual meeting of the Cymmrodorion Society on Friday it was announced that Mr. THOMAS POWELL, M.A., of Taunton, a well-known Welsh scholar, had been appointed to succeed the late Rev. ROBERT JONES as editor of "*Y Cymmrodor*," and that Dr. ISAMBERD OWEN would superintend the publication in London. The valuable services of the Rev. D. SILVAN EVANS have been secured to complete the edition of the works of IOLO GOCH.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Oct. 29, 1879.)

RADFORD, JOHN, born in the neighbourhood of Chester, was a person of some consequence in his day. He entertained extreme views upon civil and religious matters, long before "Nonconformity" had become an established thing in England, and he was a friend of Philip Henry's when that good man was passing through his fiery trial. A son of his is said to have married one of Mr. Henry's daughters, and their son was grandfather to the celebrated Samuel Rogers, author of "*Pleasures of Memory*," and of other works, and who died in 1855. Mr. Radford wrote some small things which were printed, but they must have been of an ephemeral character, for their titles are not even recorded among the early Cheshire printed books. He died about the close of the seventeenth century, and his son died soon afterwards leaving a family of young children, who were brought up by their uncle, the Rev. Matthew Henry.

RAE, EDWARD. This gentleman was born at Birkenhead, in the year 1847, and was educated at the well-known school in that town, so long and successfully conducted by the Rev. J. T. Pearse. Trained to commercial pursuits, he has nevertheless evinced a strong love for travel; and possessing a quick eye and sound observation, he has turned his attention to literature, and has produced some excellent books, which are as full of interesting information as they are of useful knowledge. In 1875 the "Land of the North Wind" appeared, being an account of his travels among the Laplanders and the Samoyedes; and in 1877 another work from his pen was published, entitled, "The Country of the Moors," a journey from Tripoli in Barbary to the holy city of Kaissen. This last journey was one full of danger, but Mr. Rae managed to reach the "holy city" in safety, and to make drawings of the great mosque, bringing away with him stores of curious information. He put the whole into print, and has produced a volume which may be useful to other travellers. This young author is a careful and cheery writer, his works are full of promise of future fame, and he is entitled therefore to honourable mention as a Cestrian writer.

RAIKES, HENRY CECIL, born at Chester in the year 1838, was educated at Shrewsbury and at Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1860 and M.A. 1863. He was called to the Bar in the last mentioned year, and joined the Chester and North Wales circuit, but in 1865 he began to turn his attention to politics by becoming a candidate for his native city, when he was defeated by Mr. W. H. Gladstone, and shortly afterwards a like fate attended him at Davenport. In 1868 he was carried for Chester by a large majority over Mr. Salisbury, and again in 1874 at the head of the poll; and in 1875 he was appointed Chairman of Ways and Means in the House of Commons, which post he still occupies. There is probably no other instance on record where so young a man has risen to such eminence from the middle class as the one just narrated. He had no family alliances to commend him to notice, both his grandsires being self-made men through their own worth and labours, and it is no mean tribute to the excellence of our institutions that the path to honour is ever open to educated men of the humbler classes in England. Mr. Raikes has not published any known work that could entitle him to be called an author, but his writings in some of the metropolitan weeklies, indicate his literary qualifications, and he is still young enough to excel in that walk in life, if he should ever devote his attention to it seriously.

RANDALL, MARTIN, a native of Caughley, in Shropshire, is worthy of mention as the founder of China works at Madeley. He left his home to go to Derby, and thence to Pinston, from whence he proceeded to Islington, where, in conjunction with a Mr. Robins, he started some China works. In 1826 he established himself at Madeley, and after a long and painful struggle, he succeeded in producing an article so like old Sevres china, that it became difficult to discover the difference between his handiwork and the famous French one. This particular British article is now valued for its own intrinsic worth, and has become a source of pleasure and of profit to our own nation; but we owe more than we can well tell, to the taste and genius of the early workers in the art, and Mr. Randall's name must always command respect accordingly. He removed eventually to Staffordshire, where he died; but his name is still mentioned with affection by the busy workers in the fictile art of the country.

RATCLIFFE, WILLIAM, a native of Cheshire, and for some years engaged as a cotton manufacturer at Stockport, wrote and published several works upon the causes

of the distress that had befallen the cotton trade in the early part of the present century. It is very curious to notice the extraordinary views manufacturers entertained about commerce some sixty years since. The home trade at that time brought prosperity with it, and export ruin. Mr. Ratcliffe endeavours to prove in his writings that the exportation of cotton yarns was the real cause of all the distress suffered in his day, never dreaming that a time would come when the foreign trade of Great Britain must be her sheet anchor, and that hundreds of thousands of our busy artisans would be engaged upon the production of cotton and woollen goods for the great markets of every nation in the world. His name must be revered nevertheless as a pioneer in this enterprise, for although he thought and wrote in one way, his energy and his spindles carried him in the opposite direction, and helped to raise his country to the pinnacle of fame as a manufacturing nation.

RATTENBURY, JOHN, who filled the responsible office of President of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference 1861-2, was born at Newport, Monmouthshire, in the year 1806. He was educated in his native town, and having removed to Manchester, he there became a member of the society, and soon afterwards a preacher; eventually he was received into the regular ministry, and appointed to Stourbridge. He also ministered at Macclesfield, Leeds, York, Manchester, Bristol, London, and other great centres of Methodist influence. He had distinguished himself as a preacher, chairman of districts, and secretary to various connexional funds; and in due time he gained the highest distinction in the gift of the denomination, the presidency of Conference. Always popular, and very earnest in every work, his election to this high position gave universal satisfaction, for all sects saw in the compliment thus paid to him the surest proof of his good deservings, and the best evidence of the real worth of the man.

RAVENSCROFT, EDWARD, descended from the very ancient family of his name long settled in Flintshire and Cheshire, was born in the latter county, and for a time studied law at the Middle Temple. His tastes carried him to literature, and for many years of the reign of Charles the Second, and his immediate successors upon the throne, his published works came pouring through the press, as though he had a never ending fund of knowledge. There are twelve separate dramatic works published by him, but they can hardly be called his own productions, for he had the wicked knack of appropriating the thoughts of other authors and of using them as his own. Dryden condemned him pretty freely, but the great poet, nevertheless, helped to bring him into notice, so that, rightly or wrongly, he is thought deserving of mention as among the writers of his time.

REYNOLDS, WILLIAM, a noted chemist, and an excellent mechanic, who died at "The Tuckies," near Broseley, Salop, in the year 1803, deserves especial mention as one of the Quaker co-fraternity who helped to establish the famous coal and iron industries on the banks of the Severn, at and near Coalbrookdale. A genial man, he gained upon the affections of the poor who depended upon him for their bread, just as he also commanded the confidence of the commercial world by his integrity; and the respect of religious people by his piety, benevolence, conscientiousness, and the willing sacrifices he made for his faith. But he possessed with all these qualities another talent which brought men of science into communication with him; he invented and patented a method for converting iron into steel; he designed and perfected a locomotive that could travel upon the highways; he con-

structed inclined planes for the cheap and easy conveyance of traffic, so as to save the wasteful use of manual and animal labour. In short, he was one of those active-minded men who lived in advance of their times, and who pioneered some of the most valuable schemes into public notice; but, unlike most of "the clever set," he was patient, practical, enduring; a pattern Englishman, who seeing an opening to do good did it, and then reverently thanked God that he had been permitted to do it. There is a savour of holiness in the character of this man which gives happiness to all who dwell on it, a lesson in his life which must ever endure for those who study it, and a reverence enshrining his very name that surrounds it with a halo and a lustre which time cannot efface. Watt was a friend and correspondent of his, and Telford was so delighted with his *Inclined Plane* (already alluded to) that he described it at length in Plymley's Shropshire, and he adds when doing so that the difficulties overcome by it were "insuperable, and most probably might have proved so for ages to come, had not Mr. William Reynolds of Ketley, whose character is too well known to need any eulogium, discovered the means of effecting" the object contemplated, when he set about constructing the work in question.

RHODES, HENRY, born at Tintwistle, Cheshire, in the year 1789, is one of the men who have helped to improve the condition of things in England. He was educated for the ministry at Rotherham College, and at the Glasgow University; and he afterwards served Churches at Belfast, Dublin, Wexford, Buxton, and Fulwood in Yorkshire. He had known how the people longed for political power, and being a public spirited man, he did not scruple to assist them, although he constantly endeavoured to moderate their demands within the circle of Christian principles. His name was not unknown at Sheffield, when in 1833, the soldiers fired upon the people. This event quickened his zeal, but it also sank deep into his heart, and if he worked the more for the cross; so did those who knew him give better heed to his words, and themselves became good Christians. He died in 1873, the death of a true Christian patriot, loving God supremely; and his countrymen for Christ's sake.

RICHARDS, WILLIAM, was born at Usk, Monmouthshire, in the year 1795, and when quite a youth he began to preach among the Nonconformists. He was ordained at Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, in 1827, from whence he eventually removed to Plymouth, where for several years he laboured with great acceptance. He died in 1852. There is something touching in this man's life, for according to the testimony of a friend who knew him thoroughly, he subdued wholly the pre-disposition of his mind to serve his country in one direction, that he might the better fulfil his duty to mankind, in the humble office of a Dissenting minister. Had he lived in times when men had to sacrifice their lives for their faith he would have become a martyr; as it happened, his lines had fallen to him in pleasant places; but he possessed all the virtues of a hero.

RICHARDSON, JOSHUA, son to a gentleman of the same name, born in Shropshire, and who for many years was minister at Middle, in the same county. A sober minded and very holy man, he could not subscribe the declaration required under the provisions of the Act of Uniformity, and like so many of his brethren, he lost his place, and had to submit to many indignities. Upon leaving Middle he removed to Alkington, near Whitchurch, where he remained till his death in 1671. There is a story related of him, that when he came to die, sounds of sweet music filled the apartment in which he lay, and

that the departing saint "passed from earth to heaven in the enjoyment of that melody, which, once joined in, will never end." But there does not appear to be much authority to support the statement.

RICHMOND, PETER, a native of Llandenny, Monmouthshire, has been esteemed worthy of Mr. Heath's observation, in one of his amusing pamphlets upon the beauties of this magnificent county. He was but a farmer's assistant, but like many another of his compeers he must needs go a soldiering against the French, and thus he became a hero, proving his valour under fire, and receiving for reward, a gun-shot wound through the knee. He returned to his own county afterwards, and in the course of nature died, when his old neighbours, in his honour placed an altar tomb over his remains, carving his effigy at full length upon it, dressed in regimentals, with his musket resting upon the shoulder, and by direction of his patrons (which is the point of his story), with a *perforated hole the size of a bullet, through the knee of the veteran*. Smile as we may at such proofs of weakness, the man who thus suffered and bled for his country, is as deserving of honourable mention as if he had filled a high position in the social scale, and we cannot but applaud the fine sentiment pervading the public mind in this particular, and which insists that he who suffers for his country is also worthy of its applause.

RIDER, HENRY, who was born at Carrington, Cheshire, in the year 1562, proceeded to Jesus College, Cambridge, for his education. In 1612 he was made Bishop of Killaloe, in Ireland, where, for several years, he served the Church with honour and great dignity. He wrote and published several works, the best known of them being a Latin dictionary, which, at one time commanded much attention. He died in 1632.

RIDER, JOB. The *Belfast Guardian* in one of its issues of May, 1833, recorded the death of this "native of Broomhall, in the parish of Westbury, Salop," and who died in Belfast, April 4, 1833, in his 76th year. Rider was famed as a mechanic, and "constructed a time-teller, with his own hands, which went for twelve years without requiring to be wound up during that long period." The principle on which "Rider's clock" was made was, that "the slightest change in the weight of the atmosphere wound up this extraordinary piece of mechanism." Rider also invented a rotary steam-engine, which was at work in Belfast at the time of his death. He was a man much esteemed and beloved by his fellow-townsmen, and his name is deserving of remembrance.

ROBERTS, ROBERT, born at Upton, near Chester, in the year 1731, is another of the early disciples of John Wesley, who deserves to be mentioned with respect. His parents were well-to-do farmers; but they had a very poor notion of how religion was to be cultivated in the soul, and the son's youthful training in this respect was accordingly much neglected. He knew nothing about religion until 1752, when words spoken to him, "by good Thomas Briscoe, brought a sense of his need of salvation to his soul." And, joining the Methodists soon afterwards, he was called to preach the gospel. In 1759 he was chosen by the London Conference to become an "itinerant." A godly, zealous, and faithful man, he did good service in the cause of God; and after more than forty years labour, he died at Macclesfield in 1799, in the full assurance of a glorious immortality.

RODERICK, PEARCE, was born at Oswestry, in Shropshire, and was elected chief master of Wem school in 1650. He was an inn-holder, and probably suffered much by the great fire in 1677. After this misfortune he built a larger

house now known as the sign of the Red Lion in that town. He died in 1682. We must not smile at his low calling for in his days it was esteemed honourable, to be the landlord of a respectably conducted inn. How far it was wise to allow the schoolmaster to keep a public is quite another matter, but Mr. Roderick, according to all accounts, plied both callings with acceptance, never forgetting his scholarship when in the pursuit of his trade.

ROGERS, ROGER, was born at Bedwellty, Monmouthshire, in the year 1732, and ordained in 1761 as an Independent Minister. The celebrated Edmund Jones, who has been mentioned in these records, appears to have been his friend, we might almost say his patron, which is a sufficient proof of his fitness to take upon him the high office he had aspired to. He stood very high in public esteem as a preacher, and from many authentic sources we gather that he was most successful in the prosecution of his ministry, but he died in 1765 in the very midst of his usefulness, and Mr. John Thomas, a noted Welsh Bard, published an elegy to his memory, in which he is described as "a star of the first magnitude which had suddenly set, and had left a great darkness behind."

ROGERS, WILLIAM, born at Oswestry, Salop, in the year 1810, was ordained as a Wesleyan missionary to the West Indies in 1836. He laboured there with very considerable success for ten years, after which, returning to England, he was appointed to several circuits in rotation, and became the instrument of doing much good service to his own countrymen. There was nothing great about the man, except his piety, and in that—the highest qualification a minister can have for his office—he was pre-eminent. A man of tender sympathies, he loved his work and the people committed to his charge; his warmth of heart endeared him to all who came in contact with him, and his happy, peaceful, useful life, came to a sudden and unexpected end in 1868, when he died.

ROSSER, JAMES, born at Heaton Norris, Cheshire, in 1791, became a Wesleyan Methodist Minister in 1813, and for upwards of forty years he travelled the circuits, and gave general satisfaction to all the congregations in which he ministered. He was a preacher of the old stamp; the salvation which Christ had secured for fallen man was the great theme of all his sermons. The Saviour was all in all to him, and he felt that if mankind could only be brought to His feet, they, too, would find him to be altogether lovely. He seems to have retired from the active work of the ministry in 1854, but for sixteen years more he did good service in village preaching, in visiting the homes of the poor, and in promoting a love for religion among the young. He died in 1870, at the great age of eighty.

ROWE, BRYAN, a native of Macclesfield, Cheshire, was educated at Eton, and was elected thence to King's College, Cambridge, whereof he was admitted scholar 26 May, 1499; he ultimately became B.D. He was appointed to dispute before Henry VII., on one of his visits to this University, and made an oration to Cardinal Wolsey when he came to Cambridge in 1520. It does not appear when he died, but he was buried in King's College chapel. He wrote a preface to John Barker's "*Scutum Mexpugnabile*"; and an epistle from his pen is prefixed to Dr. John Sampson's edition of the Psalter. Also 1. In laudem Divæ Mariæ Epigramma. 2. In adventu Henrici VII. ad Cantabrigiam Carmina. 3. Oratio cum Cardinalis Wolseuse Cantabrigiam venerat A.D. 1520.

ROWLEY, THOMAS, D.D. This distinguished man was born in the year 1797, at Middleton Scion, near Bridgnorth, Salop. He was educated at Shrewsbury Gram-

mar School, and proceeded thence to Christ Church, Oxford, as a Careswell exhibitioner. He took his degree of B.A. in 1819, and two years later, was chosen by the corporation of Bridgnorth to fill the responsible office of head master of the grammar school in that town. In 1822 he proceeded to his M.A. degree, and in 1839 to his B.D. and D.D. honours. Long before the last mentioned year, he had gained for himself and his school a great reputation, for not only did he turn out some clever pupils, but all his scholars were well grounded in knowledge, and had been taught to entertain a high sense of honour, and of respect for the laws which should always govern a great school. Bridgnorth is under very great obligations to this honoured man, his fostering care brought the school placed under his charge to a high and dignified position, and there are numbers of leading men now occupying positions of honour and of trust who are so many witnesses to the reputation of Dr. Rowley, both as a scholar and a gentleman.

ROWSON, RALPH, born at Stockport in the year 1618, matriculated at Oxford in 1634, and became a fellow of his college and a B.D. He was deprived in 1648 by the Visitors appointed by the Parliament. Dr. Bliss says he repaired to Cambridge, where he became a tutor; but he does not say how long he remained there. In 1659 he attached himself to the Cheshire rising under Sir George Booth, and preaching where he could, he urged his hearers to hold fast by their designs, and to display the courage of honest men. How he escaped death for this grave offence is wonderful. Living to see and to rejoice in the restoration, he got back his Oxford fellowship, but nothing more, and this neglect soured him, for he saw others who had done no service to the King promoted to places of honour and dignity, and he who had done so much, despised. He died in 1684.

RUMSEY, WALTER, born at Llanover, Monmouthshire, in 1584, having been educated for the bar, was eventually appointed a judge for South Wales, and was usually called "The pick lock of the law," being able to open up many of the nice and intricate questions which perplexed and troubled the minds of less learned men. In 1640 he was chosen one of the Knights for his native county to serve in the Parliament which began at Westminster in April of that year, and might have been afterwards chosen to the same dignity, but he declined the honour. He wrote several works, but little is known of them now. His death occurred in the year 1660.

RUSSEL, ELIAS, who was Sheriff of London in the year 1293, and Mayor in 1299, and again in 1300, is mentioned by Mr. Hulbert as a native of Shropshire. There is no evidence known to us to support that statement, none to contradict it, and in short Mr. Russel has no history beyond the two facts narrated above, so that if Salop claims him she must do so upon Mr. Hulbert's authority alone.

RUSSELL-HAMILTON, GUSTAVUS, was born at Downton Hall, near Ludlow, Salop, in the year 1797, and in 1855 he succeeded his father as Viscount Boyne, being the seventh in descent from that celebrated military officer both of his name and family, and who rendered so much service to King William the Third; he was raised to the peerage in 1715 as Baron Hamilton, and in 1717 still further ennobled as Viscount Boyne. He assumed the name of Russell by royal licence in 1850, and although he was of Irish blood paternally, his mother, a daughter of Mr. Baugh of Baronston House, Salop, not only gave him birth in Shropshire, but endowed him with a local claim to distinction in that shire by property. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Salop in 1846. There is

not much to relate about the personal character of this nobleman, but representing as he did the blood and virtues of his great ancestor, he carries us back to the days of William of Orange, and to the great struggle for constitutional liberty which may be said to have been crowned at the Battle of the Boyne.

RUSSELL, THOMAS, a native of Clyve, in Shropshire, filled the office of town clerk at Shrewsbury in very early times. He died in 1336, and in his will he styles himself *Clericus burge Salop*. The document is a curious example of how our ancestors provided for their interment, and for the due celebration of Mass for their poor souls. This good old clerk is very much concerned for the "souls of my wife and my sons, and particularly for the souls of those to whom I am bound in any debt with or without my knowledge." A sort of roving commission was given to the praying priest, who carried out this part of his will to pray for all sorts and conditions of men who happened to be of his kith and kin. We smile at the simplicity of the man who could thus trouble himself in the prospect of death, but it is impossible not to respect the truly pious motive which induced him to try and make his peace with God and men. According to the lights he had, he thus endeavoured to purge himself of his offences after the manner which in his times met with honourable and honoured attention. Our worthy has the reputation of being learned, pious, and charitable withal.

RUTTER, JONATHAN, a Cheshire man by birth, succeeded in making for himself a local name, by his presumption in undertaking the education of youth, without first obtaining a licence to do so. He was cited before the Chester Consistory Court in 1682-3 for this offence, and was monished to produce his authority to conduct a school by a day named; but he being a stubborn man, neglected to do so, and was then excommunicated in due form. Appealing to the higher Court at York, that august body confirmed the sentence of the Court below and condemned him in the costs, upon which he appealed to the Court of delegates, and most likely fared no better there. Bishop Cartwright in 1686, with more wisdom than his superordinates had shown in the matter, invited Mr. Rutter to dinner, and soon afterwards had the satisfaction of recording in his diary—"I sealed a licence to Jonathan Rutter, to be schoolmaster in St. John's in Chester," and thus by kindness secured a submission to authority, which persecution had failed to insure. We may without offence commend the Bishop's "more excellent way" of dealing with recalcitrants, to the especial notice of Churchmen in our day. Christ's promise to the "persecutors" must seem to indicate how unwise a thing it is to hale men to courts of law; for what with monitions, appeals, and the pursuit of forms, religion is fast becoming the laughing stock of the worldly minded, the game of lawyers, and a scandal to the nation. Mr. Rutter died in peace in 1688, a far better son of the Church, than if he had been sent to prison for his puny offence against Ecclesiastical law.

RYLE, HENRY, born in Cheshire about the year 1484, is mentioned by Mr. Canon Raines as "a young secular priest, patronized by the Traffords." He was Cantoriel of St. Nicholas's Chantry, Manchester, in 1508. Some say that he was a Vicar of the parish of Manchester in 1526, but he was certainly rector of Wilmslow in his native county in 1537, and so continued for some time, for he was restored to it by Queen Mary in 1553, and "deprived" of it again by Queen Elizabeth in 1559. The general belief is that he died soon afterwards. He descended from a very honourable race, and we may conclude from the little said of him, that he himself was a very honourable man.

DECEMBER 3, 1879.

NOTES.

THE STANNEY FAMILY OF OSWESTRY
(Apr. 2, Nov. 27, 1878).—Will 1547 (47 Alen Perog. Ct. Cant.).

"I David Stanney . . . to be buried in or lady Chauncell* by my mother in the Church of Saint Oswalde King and martir . . . to John Wyn Stanney my nephewe and to his heires in fee simple all my landes wt'in the towne and Lordshipp of Osestree . . . Elizabeth my sister . . . myne uncle Richarde Blodwell . . . my brother Thomas Stanney . . . Margaret ap Hewe my wiffe . . ."

In sentence confirming the will, the widow is described as "Margareta Stanney alias price,"—the inference being that she had remarried to one Price.

"The use of the word "Chancel" as an equivalent for "Chapel" is not very uncommon.

Will dated 13 Sep. 1558, and proved 3 Feb. 1558-9 (33 Welles).

"Robert Stanney, parson of St. Chistopher's London . . . Sister Elizabeth ludd . . . John Stanney son of John Stanney . . . Cousin Richard Draper . . . Niece Jane Lludd . . ."

Newcourt in his *Repertorium*, Vol. 1, p. 324, gives the date of Stanney's presentation to St. Christopher's as 28 Mar. 1536 and, apparently in error, calls him "Thomas" Stanney. His successor thereto was appointed 29 Jan. 1558-9, but the Parish Register under date Jan. 8, 1564-5 mentions the burial of "Mr. Stanie, person." Inasmuch as the will was proved six years before that date the inference is that an error was made when the Register was transcribed sixty years after. I have to thank Col. Chester for this Register extract, as also for the following "Stanney" note:—

Marriage Licences, Bishop of London. "1588 Sep. 7. John Ingledewe of Staple Inn, gent: & Ellinor Stanney of St. Christopher le Stocks, spinster, daughter of Roger Stanney, late of Oswestry, Co: Salop, gent: deceased" J.C.C.S.

QUERIES.

FINE ART IN SALOP.—New discoveries in Art are always interesting, and doubtless so the Salopians found it in 1804, when they were told that "The Grand and General Objection to Crayon painting," which was an "Apprehension that they were subject to be injured by Time or defaced by Touch," was at length obviated, by a nameless Artist who would show the results of his skill at "Mr. Bulford's, Glover, Pride Hill, Shrewsbury." Did this Artist turn out to be a native of the district or a wandering professor? S.B.

REPLIES.

SHUTS (Oct. 22, 1879).—Several of the entries or passages leading from the main streets at Welshpool are in common parlance generally called "Shuts," e.g., the Boot Shut, the Gullet Shut, Bebb's Shut, &c. Several of them, no doubt, formerly were, and I think some of them still are, closed at the end furthest from the street. R.W.

GEORGE MEARES, Esq. (June 4, 1879).—As an addenda to the reply of "H." concerning this Montgomeryshire worthy I extract from the *Salopian Journal* of

Dec. 13, 1837, the following:—"George Meares, Esq., of Dol-Llys, on his return home on the 6th inst. (after his marriage with Miss Jeffreys of Dovey Castle) was met three miles from his residence by some hundreds of people. The horses were taken from his carriage, and he was drawn home by the crowd." In return for this Mr. Meares paid for ten-shillings worth of ale at each of twenty-four public houses in Llanidloes (after the manner of the times), and no doubt in so doing added not a little to the work of the police—if there were any. Bells were rung, bon-fires lit, and an ox roasted, all showing that Mr. Meares was a man Montgomeryshire delighted to honour.

BLACKPOOL.

CHURCH BELLS (Nov. 5, 1879).—The following, I think, has not yet appeared in *Bye-gones*:—"A complete peal of 720 Double Bob Minor, on the system of two calls in one lead, was rung at St. Julian's, Shrewsbury, on the evening of Feb. 4, 1805, by a select party of the Union Society; being the first ever produced in that method, and heretofore deemed impracticable." On Mar. 22, the same year, the Society rang a peal of 6,065 Grandsire Caters, "containing the sixty tittum course ends, with 89 and 978 at home, being the shortest number of changes in which those particulars can be introduced. It was very correctly performed in four hours and four minutes."

SCROBBES BYRIG.

Hordley Bells.—Mr. Henry T. Tilley, Per-shore, writing to the *Church Times*, in answer to the query about these bells—transcribed from *Bye-gones* into that paper—says, "The inscription is not without a parallel, for the tenor (of three) at Stoke Hammond, Bucks, has precisely the same—'Sancta Trinitas Ora Pro Nobis.' From the character of the type, initial cross, &c., I should say the date is from 1500—1520. No doubt the selection of bell-inscriptions in most cases was left to the founder." The subject has also been noticed in *Notes and Queries*. One writer observes that the early date of Hordley Church does not prove the age of the bells; and asks for a description, or rubbing, of the letters. Another correspondent says, "Invocations of the Holy Trinity . . . always run 'miserere nobis' . . . Invocations of Saints rightly take 'ora pro nobis.'" None of the correspondents of "N. & Q." seem ever to have met with a similar inscription to the one at Hordley. ED.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Nov. 26, 1879.)

SADLER, THOMAS, a Salopian by birth, has the credit of being a person of considerable literary ability, and also of being the author of numerous works, mostly published anonymously. He wrote many small things the character of them being poetic and local, under his own name. In 1771 "The Muse's Cabinet" and the "Harvest Field"; in 1776, "The Merry Miller"; and in 1778, "Old Simon, or the Wooden Statue." He was certainly fond of literary pursuits, and a very industrious collector of books connected with Shropshire. He resided at Whitchurch, and, according to some accounts, died there.

SALISBURY, ARTHUR, grandson to Robert Salisbury of Ness, in Cheshire, where he was born in the latter part of the sixteenth century. He spent many years of his life at Lambach in upper Austria, whither he had gone in pursuit of health. His grandfather had given him "a ready fortune," which may mean, sufficient ready money to enable him to remain abroad in ease and with comfort, and, "being of a ready wit, with much love for book learning," he devoted the whole of his time abroad

in study, and became a great proficient in the German and Slav languages. He must have learnt Welsh, for he had written numerous poems in that language, and some of them he translated freely into German. He died in Chester, and is said to have been buried there, but the year of his death and the place of his interment have not been mentioned in the manuscript notice of him from which this note is taken.

SALISBURY, JOHN, was born in Herefordshire, and was a person of considerable consequence in that county, his name being returned by the Commissioners in 1433, as one of the local gentry. He was a very earnest supporter of the King, and did useful service for the crown. Some of his letters to the head of his house at Lleweni in Denbighshire, had been preserved, and from these it may be gathered that he was well acquainted with the history of his native county. These valuable documents were all burnt at Kinnel Park (having been removed there from Lleweni when the property was purchased by Col. Hughes's father, prior to the demolition of that house), but copies of some of them were preserved by other members of his family.

SALISBURY, THOMAS, born near Leominster, in Herefordshire, evidently about the middle of the fourteenth century, for he was "a young man in 1375, when Edward the eldest son of the Black Prince and of the fair maid of Kent, was buried at Austin Friars, London." What relation he was to William Salisbury of Lleweni, who represented Leominster in Parliament, is not clear; but he was of his family. He was a gallant man at arms, and saw much service abroad, being a trusted friend of the Black Prince, and always about his person. According to the same account, quoted already, he was present at young Edward's funeral—a child of seven when he died—and in 1389 he was himself buried in France, where "he was killed by an arrow," so that living and dying, he was true to his calling, and deserving therefore of most honourable mention among the glorious company of brave Englishmen, who in early times esteemed it a duty to carry their lives in their hands, to foreign lands, in proof of the prowess of their countrymen and in defence of "British interests."

SALUSBURY, ARTHUR, born in Herefordshire; unlike his celebrated kinsman, "John Salusbury, a wild Welshman who led a rough crew of republicans on their march to Hereford," he was a quiet and devout royalist who loved his Sovereign, Charles the First, and deplored the sad condition of things, which left his country—

Like a matron butcher'd by her sons,
And groaning as she bled at ev'ry vein;
When murders, rapes, and massacres prevailed;
When churches, palaces, and cities blazed;
When insolence and barbarism triumphed,
And swept away distinctions—low were laid
The reverend crosier and the holy mitre;
And desolation covered all the land.

He departed from England on the death of the king, and remained away until the Restoration, but he corresponded with Enderbie, who, in 1661, published "Cambria Triumphans," and supplied him with some of the notes for that over-lauded work. He died in Italy, 1671, unmarried, and some of his MSS. found their way to the Lleweni library, and thence to Kinnel, when Mr. Hughes purchased the old Salusbury estates in Denbighshire.

SALUSBURY, JOHN, father to the celebrated Welsh knight, Sir Henry Salusbury—Harri Ddu—was born in Cheshire, although he spent the early years of his boyhood, it is believed, with his father at Denbigh. According to the pedigree books, he married Katharine Seymour, and their son above named was the first of the family born

in Wales. In a very old Welsh manuscript it is stated that "the brave old John Salusbury came to Denbighland from Cheshire, and having married Cattrin Seymore, he settled in our country, and had Harri Ddu, who built Lleweni. He was a noted soldier under the first Edward, that cruel despot that overruled our nation." The ancestors of our worthy for three generations at least had been more or less identified with Denbigh, but he was the first of his family who gained any substantial settlement in the county, being the one link in that Anglo-British chain, which the wise Edward had forged, wherewith to bind the Welsh to the Crown of England. His descendants for twelve generations continued at Lleweni, and became more entirely Welsh than the Welsh themselves; soldiers, writers, and poets flourished in his line, and he probably was as fine a character himself as any of them; in any case as their progenitor he is entitled to honourable mention among the worthies of Cheshire. He died in 1289.

SANDFORD, ARTHUR, the eldest son of Robert Sandford of Sandford, was born in Shropshire, and is honourably mentioned among the men of mark in that county who loyally attached themselves to the royal cause during the Civil Wars. He was at Shrewsbury in 1645, when the Parliamentary forces attacked and took that important town. How, or why, it fell so easily into the enemy's hands has never been satisfactorily explained, for there lay within its walls some of the most resolute of royalists, and yet we are told by Mr. Owen in his history of the town that "the loss on both sides was only three killed." Mr. Sandford and his son Robert were among the prisoners taken on that occasion, and although he thus escaped with his life, his zeal for the royal cause cost him dearly, and both he and his family "suffered severely in estate, and felt the full weight of the enemy's cruelty." This brave man died in the same year, "a broken, but not dishonoured royalist," and we may very safely aver that he left behind him a name, and a succession to which the finger of scorn can never be honestly pointed.

SANDFORD, FRANCIS, eldest son of Arthur, already mentioned, was born in Shropshire in the year 1587, and proceeded to Oriel College, Oxford, in 1602, for his education. Fuller says he was "well skilled in making warlike fortifications," and that in 1642 he was appointed "chief engineer in the counties under the command of Arthur Lord Capel, then Lieutenant-General of the royal forces in the western district of England." The overthrow of the royal cause drove him to Ireland, for his English estates were sequestered by the Parliament, and there upon an estate belonging to his wife he spent many years. He had dwelt in Ireland during his father's life time, for in 1630 his son Francis, "author of the Genealogical History of the Kings of England," was born there. Mr. Sandford compounded for his Shropshire estates, and returned to them on the breaking out of the Irish rebellion, for we know that he died there in 1653, aged sixty-six.

SANDFORD, HUMPHREY's name comes down to us commended by many claims to respectful notice. A Salopian by birth, descended from an honourable family, nephew to the eminent lawyer Edmund Plowden, and a gallant soldier withal, who loved his country and was very true to his sovereign. In early life he was a Romanist we may suppose, for when the brave Sir Francis Englefield became a voluntary exile for his religion, Mr. Sandford accompanied him to France; but it is possible that he afterwards changed his religion, for, according to Mr. Burke, he purchased from the Crown the Englefield estates, near Shrewsbury, and his son, a noted Protestant, succeeded to the property. His father, Richard, who has been mentioned already, is said to have had granted to him the

Englefield property, but, according to Mr. Woolrych, Francis Englefield, nephew to Sir Francis, had secured some part of the estates, through the good offices of Mr. Plowden. It is clear, however, that in the end Humphrey Sandford held them in fee, and that his descendants have continued to do so ever since. How or why this excellent man became a supporter of Queen Elizabeth it is difficult to determine, but that he did so is very evident, for he must have satisfied the authorities of his devotion to the Crown before he could have been allowed to hold the position he did in the county.

SANDFORD, THOMAS, second son of Robert Sandford of Sandford, in Shropshire, was born at Chester, and in his early manhood became an active supporter of the Royal cause in the Civil War. We find him in command of a Company of Firelocks in Ireland, then at Acton and Nantwich, in Cheshire, during the siege of the latter place; afterwards attacking Hawarden Castle, in Flintshire, and when that stronghold had been given up to the King, he marched with his men to Beeston Castle, where he gained possession of the "lower ward," and compelled Captain Steel, the Parliamentary Governor, to deliver the fortress up to him. Mr. Pennant says that this occurred on the 13th of September, 1643, but Mr. Platt fixes the date three months later; but the dates are not to be wholly depended upon in any case, for when they are compared with Captain Sandford's services elsewhere, they do not fit in at all. It is very certain, however, that Sandford's gallantry and loyalty commanded universal respect. In the end he was killed in the King's service, and buried, it is said, at St. Werburgh's, Chester. He derived from a very ancient and respectable family in Shropshire, and his ancestors had on several notable occasions exercised their courage in defence of their country.

SAUGHALL, JOHN DE. Mr. Richard Lilwyd, the Welsh antiquary, in some rough notes on Chester, mentions John de Salghall, one of the later abbots of St. Werburgh's monastery in that city, under the name mentioned above, and states that he was born at a small village called Saughall, in Cheshire, where he died in the year 1452. Mr. Canon Blomfield in a very interesting paper upon "The Lady Chapel in Chester Cathedral" alludes to the same person under the latter name, and says, "His burial place is described as being between two pillars on the south side of the chapel, under an alabaster stone," and, he afterwards adds, "About thirty years ago (1829) this stone (Purbeck marble) was removed, and the Abbot's coffin was found under it, in a tolerably perfect state. His body was enveloped in folds of cerecloth; and an illegible writing on parchment lay upon his breast. His gold ring of office, containing a large sapphire, was on the forefinger of his right hand." The ring is now preserved among the chapter treasures, and will always be looked upon as an interesting proof of how accurate much of our old traditional history must have been. The Canon says nothing about the birthplace of the Abbot, and we can only claim him for Cheshire upon the authority of Mr. Lilwyd.

SAUNDERS, THOMAS, born at Pontypool, Monmouthshire, in the year 1732, was ordained an Independent minister at Newport in the year 1769. He was not a popular preacher, but he was a scholar of mark. In an old MS. he is pronounced to be "A classic of excellence, both in the Greek and Hebrew languages, and a fair Latinist, but he excelled in Greek." That was a sort of knowledge much needed in his day, for many great preachers among the Nonconformists must have been perplexed as to the true construction of Scripture passages in the mother tongue, and it was a

great gain to them to have a scholar to guide them in matters of doubt. Mr. Saunders is said to have written much for the English Press, but we know of none of his works, and he probably published them under another name. He died in 1790.

SAVAGE, SIR ARTHUR, born at Chester, gained considerable applause as a soldier during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and according to Kennet's "Annals," he served with the English forces at Cadiz, in Spain. In 1597 he was serving at Picardy, in France, as second in command to Sir Thomas Baskerville, and upon his death in that year, the chief command was given to Sir Arthur, Sir John Aldridge being made his lieutenant. This latter gentleman must have died soon after his appointment, for in July of the same year, Captain Henry Power obtained his "commission for the second colonelship of the companies in Picardy," and in that document it is stated that "Sir Arthur Savage Knight" had been appointed to be chief commander of the forces in succession to Sir Thomas Baskerville deceased. We have no further account of him after that, but his gallantry and great services abroad have been alluded to incidentally in several records.

SAVAGE, SIR JOHN, a great Cheshire magnate who flourished in Edward the Fourth and Richard the Third's reigns, is supposed to have been privy to all the plans of the Earl of Richmond for securing the English throne. The chronicler of Croyland states that when Lord Strange was taken prisoner by Richard he discovered the conspiracy and expressly charged Sir John as one of the conspirators. We know that when the Earl's forces met at Bosworth this knight led the left van, and upon a window at Malvern Church he was depicted as one of the attendants upon Henry. In 1491 he was deputed by the King to visit Shropshire, to collect a "benevolence" for a war against France; a more fitting title for it would have been "an exaction," for no one believed in the bona fides of the proposed war, nor is it true as asserted by Lord Bacon that Parliament had agreed to its being made. An expedition was sent to France, and Sir John was engaged in it, for he was killed under the walls of Boulogne, a martyr, we think, to the folly of his royal master.

SAWLEY, HENRY, a Herefordian by birth, but a Salopian by descent. He is supposed to have been educated at Oxford, with the view of becoming a minister, but he was never ordained, for he adopted peculiar views upon doctrinal questions, and, being of good estate, he seems to have spent his life in study, and in writing out his thoughts upon divers abstruse questions of theology. He maintained "that penitence alone secured pardon for sin, that the sacrifices demanded under the Jewish dispensation were symbolic only of a reverential regard for the Almighty Being." He points out how David, when he had committed grievous sins, had no recourse to sacrifice, but he repented of them, and so obtained pardon. How far this view is heterodox we are not called upon to determine, but it reads much like a doctrine taught in an old ballad entitled "A Tale of the Unnatural Daughter," where a bishop is made to say—

Gode men I warne alle
That ye in no wan hope falle
Yif ye haue don gret synne,
Ffor thyng hit and crye mercy
Were hit neuer so gret foly
And yet shalle ye honor wyne.

Some of his writings are curious, displaying considerable scholarship, a pure latinity, and a fair poetic genius.

They have been sadly neglected, ignorantly compiled, and mixed up altogether regardless of subjects or order. The writer of them died, it is thought, in 1511.

SCOTT, HENRY, an officer of marked merit, and possessed of considerable literary attainments, was living at Uffington, Salop, in the year 1836. He had entered the service of the East India Company, and at one time held a distinguished post on the Bengal service. This gentleman was fifth son of Jonathan Scott, of Shrewsbury, by a daughter of Humphrey Sandford of the same place, and was himself born in that town.

SCUDAMORE, PHILIPOT, a native of Herefordshire was one of the trusted followers of Owen Glendower, and has the credit of being a clever, daring, and energetic soldier. He is referred to in a MS. memoir of the great Welsh captain, and is spoken of as employed in 1409 in one of the ravages made upon Shropshire. At this very time, according to Holinshed, Glendower was in great straits, "dreading to show his face to any creature," he says that he died of hunger soon afterwards, but that is not true, for he was living in concealment in Herefordshire, and lived for some years subsequent to the date mentioned above. Scudamore inflicted great damage upon the English in Shropshire, and although he managed to escape for the time, he was afterwards taken, carried to London, and there executed.

SHAW, JOHN, son of John Shaw of Duckenfield, in Cheshire, was brother to Sir Emund Shaw, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1485. He was in the Church, and is celebrated as the Dr. Shaw who preached at Paul's Cross, in favour of Richard the Third, the text selected for this harangue were the words, "Bastard slips shall take no deep root," and after dwelling upon Edward's grossly immoral life, his seduction of Jane Shore, his rapacity and his cruelty, he was bold enough to declare that Edward himself was illegitimate, and that his children were the same. Richard found in him a willing tool, and Shakespeare thus refers to him in the play of Richard III. :—

Go Lovel with all speed to Dr. Shaw,
Go thou (to Catesby) to Friar Pinker, bid them both
Meet me within this hour at Baynard's Castle.

This Castle was the house where Richard's mother dwelt, and there it was he received the offer of the Crown. What became of Dr. Shaw after Richard's death, is not very clear, but that he had a chief hand in arousing the Londoners to support him as King is very certain, and he was well backed up by his brother, who was Gloucester's goldsmith.

SHAW, THOMAS, born at Northwich, Cheshire, in the year 1815, having undergone a collegiate course of education, became in 1842 a Wesleyan minister. He possessed preaching talents, and thus he was made the honoured instrument to awaken simple men to a lively sense of their danger, and to bring them within the fold of the Church. His pastoral qualifications were no less marked, and the good he did among professing Christians deserves to be recorded. When the Church is co-working with her ministers, we always find how influential she becomes, and it is certain that Mr. Shaw understood the secret of this success, and demeaned him accordingly. He was in the truest sense of the term—a minister of the Gospel. He died in 1873.

SHIPPEN, EDWARD, born at Stockport, Cheshire, 1671, was educated at Oxford, proceeding to his B.A. and M.A. degrees, and in 1699, to his degree of Bachelor and Doctor of Physic. After a long residence at Oxford he removed to London, where he practised as a physician. A brother of his was professor of music at Gresham Col-

lege, and in 1710, Edward succeeded him in that honourable post and held it till his death in 1723. We know from various sources that he was a distinguished man in every walk in life. He had a considerable practice in medicine, and although it has been doubted, it is the fact that he continued to practice in his art at the very time that he held the Gresham professorship.

SHIPPEN, ROBERT, born at Stockport, 1675, was educated at Merton College, Oxford, where he took his B.A. degree. He removed to Brasenose, where, in 1699, he took his M.A. and was elected a Fellow of the college. In 1705 he was chosen professor of music at Gresham College, London, and soon afterwards became a fellow of the Royal Society. In 1710, being elected principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, he took his B.D. and D.D. honours; in 1716 he became rector of Whitechapel, in London, and two years after that he was made vice-chancellor of his university, a post he held for four years. He died at Bath in 1745.

SHREWSBURY, ROBERT OF, so called after the place of his nativity. He was Bishop of Bangor at one time, and, according to Powell, was taken prisoner there in 1212 by King John's men; but he was ransomed upon payment of 200 marks. He died in 1213, and was buried by his own desire, "in Medio pro apud Salopesteriam." An odd reason is assigned for the interment of his body in the Market Place—"He believed that in those evil days men would prefer their profit before their piety, preserving their market places, though their churches were destroyed." It is comforting to think that we are no worse than our sires, but not a very happy thought that we are no better. Had pious Robert lived till now, he might have willed his body otherwise, for in this iron age neither churches nor market places are safe from spoliation.

SIMPKINSON, ROBERT, who was born near Caldicot, in Monmouthshire, is deserving of mention as a most excellent classic, and a very eminent book-worm. His modesty kept him in the background, otherwise his many learned writings might have given him fame. The Rev. Timothy Thomas, D.D., of Presteign, and Sneyd Davies—both of them great scholars—were among his intimate friends and correspondents, and some of the Latin odes written by the former are known to have been polished off by Mr. Simpkinson. He had collected a fine library of classical works, "many of them being enriched with his valuable notes" but they were all dispersed at his death to the loss of his country. He was living in 1742, and died, it is thought, in London 1750.

SMALLWOOD, EDWARD, who was born in the neighbourhood of Winsford, Cheshire, had settled in Virginia, and was there when Mr Dinwiddie was governor of that district or province. He must have been settled there for some time, for in 1716, when Mr. Spotswood filled that office, he was upon terms of intimacy with him, but he was dead when the Campaign of 1755 commenced. He wrote an account of the misbehaviour of the French, and prognosticated their eventual overthrow in America; but he is noticed chiefly because in one of his letters, he expressed a strong conviction, that the American English would confederate to secure Independence, "not from any disloyalty to the Crown, but from the mismanagement of their affairs by Englishmen who did not comprehend the wants, wishes, and prejudices of settlers in a new country." In 1763 all the French settlements in North America, but one, were ceded to the Crown of England, and not very long afterwards the Independence of the United States being proclaimed, we can see how accurately this wise and far-seeing Cestrian had mastered the secret sentiments

of his co-settlers, and had predicted the true cause for all our misfortunes in that country.

SMITH, SIR CHARLES FELIX, K.C.B., and Knight of the Royal Order of Charles 3rd of Spain, is supposed to have been born in 1786 at Piercefield, Monmouthshire. He was a very gallant and distinguished officer, and for his services was knighted in 1814, made C.B. in 1815; and a K.C.B. in 1843, having been Commander-in-Chief of the military forces in Syria, 1841. He received the thanks of Parliament for the capture of St. Jean d'Acre, and had a medal and clasp for his services at Vittoria and St. Sebastian.

SMITH, HUBERT, a native of Bridgnorth, in Shropshire, where he fills the office of Town Clerk, as his father and grandfather had done before him, must be mentioned as one of the very best local antiquaries of the present day. His life of William Hardwick, which appeared in the "Salopian Magazine," is an example of the affection with which he has studied the local history of his native county; and his volume on "Tent Life in Norway" is the very best evidence that can be adduced of his ability and tact as a writer. Mr. Smith may be looked upon as a member of the new school of antiquarians; men who, loving all that is old in history, are animated by that spirit of progress, which enables them to draw out so many useful lessons for modern application from the handiwork of the ancients. We give credit to architects for numerous beautiful designs after the old models, and rightly so, but the modern antiquary is equally entitled to our thanks, for it is he who has brought to light most of the best examples of ancient art, and who, by speech and pen, has commended them to our attention, admiration, and acceptance. We have not a word to say in depreciation of the old-fashioned antiquary, but Mr. Smith and his coadjutors give life and reality to long-neglected monuments of the greatness and skill of our forefathers.

SMITH, JOHN, born at Nantwich, Cheshire, in the year 1789, began to preach among the Methodists, when quite a youth. In 1813 he was appointed to their regular ministry, and for near forty years he laboured with assiduity and faithfulness to proclaim the Crucified Saviour, all over England. In 1852, owing to deafness, he had to become "a supernumerary," and took up his residence at Sheerness, where for ten more years, he served his day and generation according to his ability; visiting the sick and the afflicted, comforting all who were in sorrow, "so that in this more humble way, he still served his Great Master, and out of the abundance of his love, fed the lambs of the flock." He died in 1862.

SOMERS, WILLIAM, the King's Jester, according to Dr. Doran was a Salopian by birth, but others claim him as a native of Herefordshire. He was not a "worthy" in the common acceptance of the term, but if it be true that—

— He was the poor man's friend,
And often helped the widow in her need,

then he is certainly deserving of some notice though he be but "the best known of the jesters who fooled courtiers to the top of their bent at the court of Henry the Eighth, and did not spare the King himself." How true is it that "many a fool hath taught to others wisdom even in jest." If Will "was no exacting knave, but wished to do the King good deeds in great store" he had the golden opportunity at command to preach sermons of mercy to as cruel a tyrant as ever wore a crown. There are many instances recorded of the influence exercised by jesters for good, just as there are quite as many, of the evils done to humanity by the wise statesmen who pamper to the

ambition of sovereigns to gain favours for themselves. We may hope that Will Somers brought no discredit to the land of his nativity by wicked jests, and that if he found his profit in following so mean a calling, he at least tamed in some measure the savage nature of his kingly master, and shamed him occasionally to abandon his wanton ways, for some show of common decency. We must leave it to Salop and Hereford to settle their respective claims to him as a son, for we know of no existing record that can do that for them.

SOUTHERN, JOSEPH, a Salopian by birth, and a promising Wesleyan minister, who, having been educated at Richmond, was, in 1868, sent to the West Indies to labour in the mission field. The character given to him as a preacher and a pastor is most flattering, and few young men had a brighter prospect of becoming a marked man in his denomination, but in November, 1874, he was drowned at St. Eustatius, and so removed from the Church on earth to the Church in heaven, there to unite with the saints in the song of the Lord, and of the Lamb.

SPENCER, SIR JAMES, a member of the Vintners' Company, Alderman of Bridge Ward, and Lord Mayor of London in 1527, was born at Congleton in Cheshire. He had served the office of sheriff in the year 1518, and had thus passed through all the preliminary steps, which led to the highest Municipal office which a citizen could fill in this country. He is said to have been "a man of ability, rigid in the enforcement of the laws, and ambitious to find his way into Parliament." *That door*, however, was not opened to him, and his fame took no higher flight, therefore, than could be derived from the occupancy of the Civic chair, and, from the proud position he held in the city as a merchant of eminence. The date of his death is uncertain, nor is it very clear that he succeeded in founding a family, although it has been asserted that "one noble house at least derived from him."

SPENCER, ROBERT, born at Hereford in the year 1624, was removed by his parents to London in his childhood, and there he was educated at the cost of his uncle, a celebrated Turkey merchant, who had amassed a large fortune in trade. He was sent abroad by this uncle in 1659, and travelled much in the east, but he had returned to England before his uncle's death in 1667, and out of his abundant wealth he gave freely to the poor, and for the support of Christianity. Mr. Spencer is supposed to have aided William Blake in founding "The Ladies' Hospital or Charity School" at Highgate, but that establishment went after the name of the chief founder, who purchased for £5,000 Dorchester House, Highgate, and about 1676 commenced operations there. Mr. Spencer was a kind, good man,

Grave with the serious, comic with the gay;
True to the fond affections of the heart,
He played the friend, the loving husband's part.

According to one account he died 1680, but more probably a year or two before that time.

STACKHOUSE, HUGH, born in 1684 at Quatt, in Shropshire, was educated at the Bridgnorth Grammar School and at Pembroke College, Oxford. In 1726 he was elected head master of Bridgnorth School, and was appointed to the perpetual curacy of St. Mary Magdalene's in the same town. Marrying one Bridget Hall, sole executrix to the Rev. Richard Connes, he acquired thereby the valuable library which that gentleman had formed; and at his own death he left these books, and others of his own collection, to form a public library, now known as "The Stackhouse Library, Bridgnorth." He became rector of Oldbury in 1728, and died in 1743. Some writers say he was closely connected with the

celebrated Thomas Stackhouse; but the benefaction he made to Bridgnorth, and his connection with the Grammar School of that town, sufficeth to reserve him a place in these records.

STAFFORD, JOHN, a notorious and sharp-witted rogue, who lived and thrived about the middle of the fifteenth century, was a native of Middlewich in Cheshire. He was attached to the household of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, who had been empowered to coin gold and silver money for some foreign potentate. When the earl died, Stafford took possession of the "Yrons," and began to trade in the coining business on his own account. The authorities took him into custody for manufacturing "Duch coignes called St. Andrew with the which yrons he had coigned and set the figul of the yrons open caton gilted by the space of a year or more"; but he escaped punishment by setting up the king's licence, and it has been insinuated that Richard III. and he had been in league to deceive the public. Soon after his escape from this danger he was caught at York with a hundred crowns bearing the image of the French king in his possession, and the "yrons" used in their manufacture. The lawyers "were certain shure" that they had him fast on this occasion, but Stafford pleaded that the statute of Edward III. did not apply in this case, and that it provided only against the "counterfeit of the King's coin," and he again was set free, laughing in the faces of his judges, and explaining to them how the work was done. In the 4th year of Henry VII., an Act was passed that soon put an end to Stafford's trade, but by that time he was rich, and well able to lead a quiet and respectable life, honoured too as a learned adept in the mysteries of alloys, and not unlikely a welcome guest in the Royal Court. The King himself took pleasure in giving as little gold and silver as he could for the current coin of the realm, and upon which to impress the royal image in token of its value. There is a tradition that Stafford was of gentle blood and a man of mark in his day, but there does not seem to be much foundation for this statement, and that he has been mistaken for another person of the same name, who is supposed to have been base son to the Earl of Shrewsbury. The Earl died in 1473, Stafford, the son, pre-deceasing him.

STANLEY, SIR WILLIAM, eldest son of Sir Rowland Stanley of Hooton in Cheshire, where he was born to a proud inheritance, as the representative of the eldest branch of his distinguished family. He had the world at his disposal, and a bright future in store, for being a man of courage, and possessed of a pardonable ambition he became engaged in the service of the King of Spain, and returning home a finished soldier, he was employed in 1578, in the reduction of the rebellious province of Munster, where he greatly distinguished himself by the gallant manner in which he held his own against a superior force. He afterwards proceeded to Holland with the forces of the Earl of Leicester, where he was appointed Governor of Deventer. Being a Catholic the Dutch objected to this appointment, and they declined to confide in his fidelity. Sad to relate he persuaded most of his troops to go over to his old master, Philip of Spain, and in return for this act of treachery, he was permitted by that monarch to retain his post, and he became the trusted adviser of the King of Spain when he was preparing his celebrated Armada to assault our shores. He had married a daughter of Sir John Egerton of Egerton, but as he pre-deceased his father, as did his son also, the succession to Hooton therefore came to his grandson in 1613, then a child of seven, from whom descended a loyal and generous race of men who did honour to their name, and credit to the county of their birth.

STANLEY, WILLIAM OWEN, of Penrhos, Anglesey, but born at Alderley, Cheshire, in the year 1802, being twin brother to the second Baron Stanley of Alderley, and cousin to Dean Stanley. He can boast of a proud descent from both parents, but he owes to his own private virtues, and public services, the distinction he has earned both in and out of Parliament. He sat in the House of Commons for many years as member for Anglesey, for Chester, and for Beaumaris; and when there he was noted for the support he always gave to every measure favourable to the cause of civil and religious liberty. His name deserves honourable mention for the stand he made against the amalgamation of the sees of Bangor and St. Asaph, and the appropriation of Welsh Church revenues to the support of the Manchester Episcopate. In this one thing alone, he evinced the sound principles which pre-distinguished the constitutional Whig politician from every other class of statesmen, for he neither leaned to the Liberal tendencies of the age, nor attached himself to the modern Conservative one of accepting the inevitable. He has paid considerable attention to the study of antiquities, and a work which he published in 1871, entitled "Memoirs on Remains of Ancient Dwellings in Holyhead Island," and subsequent papers printed in the serials, show how he has mastered some of the debatable points relating to the supposed settlement of the Irish in Wales. Mr. Stanley is now, and has been for some years, Lord-Lieutenant of Anglesey.

STARKEY, ROBERT, son of Thomas Starkey, of Lower Hall, Cheshire, by Elizabeth Salisbury, of Leadbrook, in Flintshire, is mentioned in some old MSS. as having been engaged with the Parliamentary forces when they attacked Lathom House. He was wounded there, and was supposed to have been killed, but "he managed to escape with his life, and afterwards took part in other fights, and in many ways evinced his earnest attachment to the popular side." There is no mention of him however in the published accounts of the family, but one of his name died in London soon after the Restoration, and he is described "as of the Cheshire family of that name."

STEEL, RICHARD, "Master of Arts, born in Barthomley," Cheshire, is supposed to be father to Richard and Robert Steel, who were natives of Nantwich, and who have been noticed already. In a catalogue of the Benefactors to the parish of Barthomley commenced in 1672, we find his name recorded more than once, he "gave a Commentary upon the Holy Bible in two volumes, called the Assemblies Notes, to be kept in the Church for the use of the Parishioners, also, was at the cost of building the School House." In another place he is named as a contributor to the endowment of the same school, but in neither instance is it stated when he did those services for his native place. The "Commentary" savours somewhat of Puritanism, the School of Churchism, so that probably he was both a good Churchman, and puritanic in his religious views, unlike his son, who, in 1662, gave up Hammer rather than conform. The father possibly found his peace in the scriptural articles of the Reformed Church, but his holiness in the perfect observance of them according to the will of God, whereas the son loving both the articles and the ritual, sternly objected to the uniformity in religion, enjoined by law, thinking it more meet to suffer wrong for Christ's sake, than to submit himself to that legal bondage which has been both the bane and the stumbling block to that uniformity of practice which has so often threatened to destroy the usefulness and influence of the Episcopal Church in this nation. A great institution, and much loved by the people, but weakened by statesmen who esteem it not for what it is,

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but for the use that can be made of it for their own purposes, but which once free from such control, it is probable she must soon become the most powerful religious community in Europe.

STRETCH, SAMUEL, born at Market Drayton, Shropshire, in the year 1732, died at Madeley, Staffordshire, in 1804, at the age of seventy-two years. In early life he had served in the army as a private, but for many years before his death he was well known as an eccentric miser, living in a miserable hovel, to which no one was allowed access. By his will he left money to purchase an additional bell for the church of Madeley; a sum of £5 per annum each to the organists of Madeley and Drayton Churches; a further sum for repairing Madeley almshouses, and for clothing and educating two poor children; and to his relatives he bequeathed half-a-crown each! There are many curious stories related of him, but, upon the whole, they are undeserving of record, and indeed the man himself is hardly worth notice. We have mentioned him in these sheets because he has found a place already in Salopian biography.

STUBBS, WALTER, a Salopian by birth, is mentioned by Nimrod, as one of the keenest sportsmen bred in that county. Goulburn also refers to him in his poem on the "Epwall Hunt" thus:—

With his hat in the air, peeping out for a gate,
Neither looking, nor riding, by any means straight,
Mr. Stubbs—a crack rider, no doubt in his time,
Who hunting on Sundays did ne'er deem a crime.

He is worthy of remembrance, however, for the active steps he took in the eighteenth century, to develop the mineral resources of Flintshire, by purchasing up the leases of small adventurers, and introducing the steam engine into use for mining purposes. Sir John Glynnne of Hawarden, joined him in some of his ventures, and between them, they gave employment to the poor, enhanced the letting value of mineral estates, conferred many advantages upon the public by cheapening coal, and in divers other ways became benefactors to their country. It is believed that Mr. Thomas Botfield (another Salopian) was induced by Mr. Stubbs to adventure some of his wealth in working mines in Flintshire, and that the late Mr. George Berks of Staffordshire, who did so much for Welsh mining, was the protege and agent of this public spirited man.

SWANWICK, RICHARD, was born at Whitechurch, in the county of Salop, and was son to Mr. Richard Swanwick, a maltster in that town, and nephew to John Swanwick of the Hall, Wem. He married a Roman Catholic lady, and was disowned by his father for this, but his family made up a handsome portion for him, with which he emigrated to America, and soon became a person of importance in that country. When the war broke out he sided with the English, and placed himself under the protection of Admiral Howe, and General Burgoyne. In the end he had to return to England, where he was befriended by Lord Palmerston (father to the late Premier) who knew his family, and through his influence he obtained a pension from the Crown. He had done good service to the British in America, and Charles Wesley, who was acquainted with his mother, sang his praises in some excellent verses, which were published. Captain Swanwick settled at Wem, where he died, and his remains are buried under the hearth stone of the drawing-room of the house, wherein he once dwelt.

SWETENHAM, RICHARD, born at Middlewich, in Cheshire, was brought up to the law, and is spoken of as a proficient in it. What the "law" meant about the close of the fourteenth century is one of those ancient marvels

which we, moderns, cannot understand. His qualifications, however, were such that in 1404 he was appointed Town Clerk of Shrewsbury, and in 1430 his name crops up again as "Clerk of the Statute Merchant." How long he served in each capacity we do not know, but one John Gamul was town clerk in the reign of Henry V., and clerk in 1440. One of his name died in 1438, but the place of his burial is not mentioned. The gentleman at the head of this notice was son of Thomas Swetenham, and belonged to a good old Cheshire family.

SWINTON, JOHN, M.A., was born at Knutsford in Cheshire in 1694. He was a learned man, but somewhat eccentric, fond of horses, and remarkable for the care he bestowed upon their being properly shod. Having upon one occasion blamed the village blacksmith for some mistake he had made, that worthy replied to him "see thee lie, thy master wass well contented with an ass, but neither horse nor smith can please thee." He left the active duties of his ministry in the Church, because he was unable to renew his subscription to her articles, but he was a good man, affectionate, benevolent, and a bold asserter of the principles of civil and religious liberty. He died 1764.

SYMONDS, RICHARD, born at Abergavenny, in Monmouthshire, 1609. Matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, in 1627, and after leaving the university, he opened a school at Shrewsbury, and had the celebrated Richard Baxter among his pupils. He appears to have left that town in 1635, and proceeding to South Wales became "A Reforming Minister" there, and he is afterwards met with in London in 1646, when he was approved of by the Assembly of Divines to be an itinerant preacher in Wales. The time of his death is uncertain.

DECEMBER 10, 1879.

NOTES.

OSWESTRY CORPORATION RECORDS.

(Nov. 26, 1879).

Phillip Ellis and Edward Evans, the bailiffs mentioned in the following record, have been previously mentioned in *Bye-gones*, as far back as Nov. 5, 1873. "Edward Evans, apothecary," was entered on the charter of Charles II. (1673) as town-concilmán, but refused to serve. Perhaps he (being an ex-bailiff) was huffed at not being made an alderman! "Phillip Ellis, mercer," was not named in the charter at all, nor was he elected to the Council until some years after the charter, was granted; and we find him Mayor in 1685. "Morgan's Charity" still exists, and the record of its temporary loss to the town, as narrated this week, will be interesting to our Oswestry readers.

Ed.

April the 9th, 1672 :

Whereas Mr. Owen Morgan Cittizen & Haberdasher of London did by his last will & testam't bequeath unto the poore of the towne of Oswestry in the county of Salop twenty pounds p'r annum to bee payed by five pounds quarterly by the masters and company of Haberdashers of the Cittie of London for ever w'ch were payed accordingly untill the yeare 1666 wherein the Cittie of London was verie much consumed by fier, And thenceforth neglect was made for the payments totally aforesayd untill a decree was made by the judicature in Cliffords Inn upon the nyenteeth day of January 1672 : for the payment of one hundred and ten pounds for the Arrears during the terme of two and twenty years next ensuinge the day of the date of the said decree. And afterwards the said legacy of twenty pounds to bee paid by five pounds quarterly for ever./

The forme of the first Acquittance made since the decree made/

Received by us the Bayliffs viccar & Churchwardens of the towne of Oswestry in the county of Salop of the master & wardens of the company of Haberdashers in London the sune of six pounds five shillings of lawful money of England for one quarters pay due to us from the sayd company att the feast day of the Annunciacon of the blessed ladie S'ct Mary the virgin last past before the date hereof to bee distributed amongst the poore of our sayd towne accordinge to the gift & appointment of Mr. Owen Morgan late cittizen & Haberdasher of London deceased expressed in his last will & testament And accordinge to a late decree made by the Judicature att Cliffords Inn concerninge the same this beinge the first paym't after the makinge of the sayd decree geven under the Comon Seale of our sayd towne this 9th daie of Aprill in the yeare of our lord one thousand six hundred seaventy & two./

It was fullie agreed upon by the consent of Phillipp Ellis & Edward Evans, Esqs Bayliffs of the Towne & lib'ties of Oswestrie by & w'th the full assent of the burgesses at an ellection held in Burgesse halle one croft and one garden w'ch being heretofore the lands of Mr. Hugh Yale gent deceased was let to Richard Parry for eight yeares beginning the second of febr'rij 1660 for w'ch hee is to paye thirtie seaven shillings and sixe pence whereof nyne shillings chief rent to Mr Lloyd of Aston & the rest to the use of the poore of the said Towne / the same croft & garden was sett to Richard Parry hott presser & nowe one of the sargants att mace of the same Towne for the said term of eight yeares./ and hereunto the said Richard Parry hath putt his hand / The rent to bee paid yearelie in one paym't uppon the first day of January by mee Richard Parry, hott presser.

An accompt of the moneys received from the company of haberdashers of the Ctyty of London bequeathed to the Poore of this Corporation by Mr Owen Morgan haberdasher and Cytysen of London dec'd to whom the Acquittanses were delivered & when the moneys received ever since the towne was Incorporated by the name of a maior Aldermen & comon counsell.

Delivered to mr John Lloyd merser the	} £ s.
Acquittance for Laday 1674 and midsum'r 1674	
to bee received by his apoyntment	12 10

QUERIES.

WELSH MOTTO.—What family, about 1700, bore this motto, "Hwy Peri Klod No Glayd"? A.

In *Notes and Queries*.

[In "N. & Q." Dec. 6, a reply answers to this query, to the effect that "Hwy peri clod na golud" is the "family motto of Lloyd of Aston, Salop, and Rosindale, Lancaster." For similar inscription on monument to John Vaughan, M.P., in Llanyil Church, Bala, see *Bye-gones*, July 23, 1879, only in that we have "hoedl" (life) instead of "golud" (wealth).—Ed.]

REPLIES.

OSWESTRY WATCHMAKERS (Aug. 20, Oct. 22, 1879).—*William Hyfield*. In looking over the deeds connected with the Old Chapel, Oswestry, for the purpose of local history, I find one of the trustees to some property bequeathed in 1777, "William Highfield of Oswestry, watchmaker"; most likely the man enquired about. The spelling of the name is of small consequence, for it is no unusual thing in old documents to find names variously spelt. JARCO.

PRINTING IN WALES (Oct. 15, 1879).—A writer who signs himself "Caradoc" in a letter to Sir W. W. Wynn published in the *Gents' Mag.* for 1821, page 133, says that "the temporary press set up by Mr. Lewis Morris of Bod-Edeyrn in Anglesey (1734) is still in being at Trevriw near Llanrwst." TAFFY.

FRANKTON CHURCH (Jan. 16, 1878). At this date GES gave a hymn composed by the Rev. Robert Montgomery to be sung at the opening of "St. Andrew's Church, Frankton," in 1835. I observe in an issue of the *Salopian Journal* of the period that "the poet" wrote two hymns for the occasion, but whether they were sung or not I cannot say. By "Frankton Church" must be understood an enlargement of the schoolroom (which had been erected in 1824). This opened into the schoolroom by folding-doors, and was consecrated (or opened) on St. Andrew's Day, 1835. It was generally called "The Bottle Chapel," probably from its proximity to the Bottle public house. "St. Andrew's Church" on the top of the hill was consecrated in 1858.

CHURCH MOUSE.

CURRENT NOTES.

The ancient parish church of Shifnal was re-opened on Thursday, December 4, after restoration. In the absence, through indisposition, of the Bishop of the Diocese, the sermon was preached by Bishop Kelly of Newfoundland. A gloom was cast over the service by the death on the previous Thursday of the wife of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Cunliffe. The offertory at the close of the service amounted to £173. The Earl of Bradford presided at a public luncheon, which was afterwards held in the Town Hall. Shifnal Church was a collegiate church in Saxon times, and it contains examples of each of the successive periods of architecture, from Norman to Perpendicular. The Rev. John Brooke, who has munificently contributed towards the restoration of the church, says, in a paper which has been published in the transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological Society:—"A structure, of Saxon origin, once stood here, and of the Norman, which succeeded it, remains exist in the chancel and south transept, although these cannot be attributed to an earlier date than the close of the 12th century, as is evident from the form of the large semi-circular arch which stands at the west end of the chancel, and which, with three others now gone, must formerly have supported a very massive central tower. The remains of a fine semi-circular doorway, the jambs of which are still visible in the external wall of the south transept, and two small round-headed windows in the north wall of the chancel, which have slender columns, keeled up the centre, and finely-carved capitals, surmounted by a circular abacus (instead of the square one usual at that day), he thinks, are excellent specimens of the period. The chancel itself is longer by one-third than it was originally, it having been extended when an addition was made in the early part of the 14th century, and the fine five-light eastern window, with the two side ones adjoining it, were introduced, all forming exceedingly beautiful specimens of the transition period."

The parish church of Alveley, near Bridgnorth, which has been undergoing restoration at the hands of Mr. A. W. Blomfield, was lately re-opened. The nave of this interesting church is Norman, (circa 1120); the chancel is early English, while the clerestory and side aisles are late Decorated. The south aisle ends in a chapel, which in mediæval times was separate from the parish church, and which since the days of Queen Elizabeth has belonged

to the proprietors of the Coton estates as a private chapel, or, as it is termed in old books, "the chancel of St. Mary, in the parish church of St. Mary, in Alveley." During the last century the fabric was much injured by alterations. The south porch was pulled down, the moulded bases of the grand Norman pillars were cut away, the lancet windows of the chancel, the traceried windows of the aisles, the string courses and hood mouldings both inside and outside, were destroyed; the floor was raised nearly two feet above its original level, and on it were erected high pews reaching half-way up the pillars. The church has been restored as far as possible to the state in which it was left by mediæval architects. During the restoration a beautiful altar cloth was discovered, dating from the latter part of the fifteenth century, richly embroidered in the best style of mediæval art, and in many respects a worthy rival in the west to the celebrated Ely cope in the east of England. A magnificent and faithful copy of this altar cloth has been made by the Wantage Sisterhood, and with the altar was vested on the occasion of the re-opening of the Church. At the morning service the sermon was preached by the Bishop of Hereford, and at the afternoon service by the Rev. Canon Howell Evans, vicar of Oswestry and rural dean.

The Parish Church of Weston-under-Red-Chaste, was also recently opened after restoration. The work has been carried out through the efforts and liberality of the venerable incumbent of the parish, the Rev. John Hill of the Citadel, assisted by the Hawkstone family and the neighbouring gentry. The preacher at the morning service was the Ven. Archdeacon Allen, who in the course of his sermon said:—"I am happy in being allowed to stand here to speak to you on your first meeting in your admirably-fitted church, well restored, in which your dearly-loved and greatly-honoured clergyman hath carefully ministered to you for fifty-four years. There is, as I imagine, scarcely more than one other person here present who can recall the earlier ministrations in this place, round which are gathered many interesting memories of Rowland Hill, Reginald Heber, Bryan Hill, and others. It is pleasing to see the old enclosed pews, which in some instances must have helped sleep and hindered prayer, replaced by such excellent open sittings, where the worshippers kneel in comfort, as well as sit in comfort. It is pleasant to see this chancel provided, and the entire fabric made more fitting for the worship of Him to whom every knee should bow. Personally I feel thankful to God that the good desires of your venerated pastor, long cherished by him, have been thus happily realised. I think that not only this part of the parish of Hodnet, but the entire neighbourhood, owes, under God, a debt of gratitude to your pastor, first for the loving and diligent oversight of the people immediately under his charge, and also for his care, his prudence, his untiring attention, in looking after the interests of the poor and of the ratepayers, as chairman of the Board of Guardians at Wen."

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Dec. 3, 1879.)

TALBOT, GILBERT, son of John, second Earl of Shrewsbury of that name, was born, it is now said, in Herefordshire; but he served as high sheriff of Shropshire in the third year of Richard the Third. He favoured Henry of Richmond, and in the year of his shrievalty he raised an army for his support. Henry rewarded him handsomely by giving to him a considerable estate in Worcestershire, appointing him Governor of Calais, and making him a Knight of the Garter. He evidently held

his post in France for some time, for it is related how Henry the Eighth sent orders to him to fortify it welllest the French should take it. Sir Gilbert sent him for answer, "He could neither fortify, nor fistify, without money, of which his Majesty had sent him none." A brave and bold man, he knew well how to hold his own against the enemy, and to hit his royal master upon the weakest point of his armour.

TANNER, DANIEL, one of the most eminent iron masters in the Kingdom, was born at Monmouth. He had large works at Liddbrook, Riddbrook, Blaendon, and Pontypool, and in 1775 he acquired the wire and iron works at Tintern, once the property of the Whites and Jordens. To him the county of Monmouth is greatly indebted for much of its commercial prosperity, and he very worthily occupies a foremost place in the remarkable annals of the iron trade of this great nation. David Tanner, equally eminent, is sometimes called his son, at other times his brother.

TARTT, WILLIAM MACDOWAL, was born at Chester in the year 1788. His father was engaged in trade, and he was himself brought up to business, but he relinquished his occupation, and went on a visit to America, where he remained for three years. He was fond of literature, and in 1808 he published a volume of "Odes, Sonnets and Poems;" and several other works have been attributed to him, but these were published anonymously.

TASKER, EDWARD, son of Charles Moulson Tasker, was born at Chester in the year 1820, and is a man who would doubtless be surprised to find himself famous, and yet he has in him some of the chief elements that go to make up the artist of "natural genius." One pen and ink drawing of his, of "The Old Bridge Gate" in his native city, and which he made when but a lad of fifteen, would alone suffice to verify this statement; but as he followed the occupation of a house painter of necessity, and had thus to abandon the sure path which should have led him both to glory and to fame, his humble occupation may be said to have barred his artistic career. His elder brother, Wm. Tasker, did make for himself a name, and it is impossible to look upon the beautiful miniature of him, painted by his companion and friend, Thomas Bailey, and which was exhibited at a recent art exhibition at Chester, without feeling that he was destined by nature to become a famous man. He was one of our earliest and best lithographers, but owing to failing health he had to gain a precarious livelihood by teaching drawing and painting, both in oils and water colours. He will always be remembered as the first drawing master at the Chester Mechanics' Institute, and also as the accomplished tutor of the young Congreves, of Burton Hall, where he resided for some years. The first Marquis of Westminster appreciated him at his true worth, and commissioned him to paint his famous horse "Touchstone," a production of such merit, than when completed, the generous patron insisted upon his adding a further sum to the amount at which he had agreed to do the work. The imitation basso relievos over the doors of the grand saloon at Eaton were executed by him, and we must be allowed to say, upon good authority, that one of the handsome landscapes which stood upon the walls of that room was due to his pencil wholly. The engravings of a local character, made from his drawings, are but so many proofs of the exceeding excellence of his works, and local collectors have treasured up his scraps of animals, landscapes, buildings, in pencil, pen and ink, oils, and water-colours, as things of beauty not to be lightly parted with. By mere accident, he was born in London (in 1808), and we cannot properly dwell further upon his character in these records;

but what he was, his brother Edward might have been; the genius of the one was to be met with in the other—they lacked one thing in common, the opportunity to become famous painters, nature having designed them both to excel in the art, but the fates decreed them to remain mere local artistes.

TATTON, ROBERT, who, in 1539, purchased some lands at Northenden, Cheshire, is supposed to have been born at Chester. He is said to have been the builder of Withenshaw Hall, and the first of his name called after that place. We may conclude from his appointment as one of the Royal Commissioners to enquire into the history and endowments of Lancashire Charities that he was a person of consequence, and a "reformer" also, and that he did his work so well, as to secure for himself in 1548 another appointment as Commissioner to enquire into the "Ornaments, plate, jewels, and bells belonging to every Church or Chapel within the countie of Chester." There is a reference to him in the Egerton papers which leads to the conclusion that he was a person of a resolute will, a quality much needed in a reformer, of his times, when the authorities took active steps to afflict whole communities who, whatever their faults, did in many instances much good service to the poor. It is to be hoped that Mr. Tatton did wrong to no one, and that when he died in 1579 his "peaceful end" was a blissful one, too.

TATTON, WILLIAM, born at Withenshaw, in Cheshire, 1749, was a very worthy descendant of brave Robert Tatton, of the same place. During the civil wars he suffered greatly in the Royal cause. He represented his native county in Parliament, and was ancestor of the Egertons of Tatton, who after his death in 1806 supplied, in the persons of his son, his grandson (the present Lord Egerton of Tatton), and his great-grandson, the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton, representatives in Parliament for a portion of the county, all of whom have maintained, with honour and credit to themselves, the excellent public character of their esteemed head.

TEMPLE, LAURA SOPHIA, only daughter of Lieut.-Col. Temple, was born at Chester in the year 1786. Her parents removed to Lincolnshire in 1796, and then she began to read and study the works of Milton and Pope, and thus acquired in her girlhood a taste for poetry. In 1805 she published a small volume of poems, another volume in 1808, and in 1812 a third volume entitled "The Siege of Saragosa and other Poems."

THOMAS, EDMUND LEWIS, a native of Tilery, in Monmouthshire, may be honourably mentioned as of the ancient yeoman class, who in the last century farmed his own land. His father was a Puritan, and the son, "much like his father, zealous and diligent in the service of God." We owe much to this class of honest, upright, independent, and pious men; they were the salt of our country, when gross sin held high honours in the chief places of public resort in England. "I was at his house several days and nights, and remember that his whole delight was to discourse of spiritual things," said a good Monmouthshire minister when alluding to Mr. Thomas. A grave and undefiled life was his; at all times willing to render the best service he could to his neighbours and to his country, he did and said everything under the influence of that predominating principle which guided him in life, and which was to be traced to his supreme love to God, and to his desire to glorify Him in all things. His death was but a narrow passage from this vain world to the abode of the saints in glory.

THOMAS, THOMAS, was a native of Salop, and son to Robert ap Thomas, who in the year 1330 had been selected

as one of the Governors of that ancient town. There is not much to be said about him beyond his having served the office of bailiff in 1432, 1436, and 1440, and that he was one of the Shrewsbury Aldermen who in 1441 signed a petition to Parliament for the perpetuation of the "Corporation," but he is entitled to a place in these records as the representative of the "Shropshire Thomases," a distinguished and honourable family in that county.

THORNES, ROGER, was born at Shrewsbury, and was called *the wise Thornes of Shrewsbury*. He was great-grandson of Thomas Thornes, one of the first Aldermen of that town, and himself filled the office of bailiff there six times. He married a daughter of Sir Roger Kynaston. His fame for wisdom was such that "both town and country repayed to him for advyse." He died in 1531, "And lyethe buried in St. Mary's Church" in his native town.

THORP, JOHN THOMAS, Alderman of Aldgate Ward, London, from 1817 to 1835, was the eldest son of Samuel Thorp, born at Wilmslow, Cheshire, in 1738, and nephew of John Thorp of Wilmslow, a Cheshire quaker. By virtue of his office as Lord Mayor of London, in 1820-1, he acted as Butler at the Coronation of King George the Fourth, and had presented to him the gold goblet used by the king at the banquet. During the celebrated trial of Queen Caroline he espoused her cause against the King, escorting her each day to the House of Lords. At her funeral the Lord Mayor was at the head of the procession in his state carriage as it passed through the city. The next year he was elected member of Parliament for the city of London. He was a governor of the Hon. Irish Society and in 1835 was again elected Lord Mayor but declined to serve, and dying unmarried in 1836 was buried with his father at Walthamstow, Essex. His brother, Alfred Thorp, married Louisa, daughter of Sir William Plomer of Snaresbrook, and their only daughter married her cousin, Samuel Thorp, Major-General Bombay Staff Corps, upon whose death, without heirs, in 1878, this London branch of the Cheshire Thorps became extinct.

THORP, SAMUEL, Major 27th Regiment (Enniskillen) and Knight of Hanover, was the son of Jonathan Thorp of Wilmslow, Cheshire. Captain 41st Regiment, who had fought at the battle of Minden in 1759, and nephew of John Thorp of Wilmslow, the Cheshire Quaker. Educated at Westminster School and at the R. Military College, he entered the army at an early age, and as a Lieutenant in the 23rd Regiment or Royal Welsh Fusiliers joined the army in Portugal in 1808, and suffered severely from hunger in the retreat, under Sir John Moore, through Galicia. At sixteen years of age he fought in the battle of Corunna, and his regiment was the last to embark for England. He took part in the expedition against Walcheren, and returning to Portugal was present at the siege of Badajoz and at the battle of Albuera, where he was severely wounded and left on the field for dead. He was engaged in all the Pyrenean battles, and at Toulouse was again dangerously wounded. Promoted to be Captain in the 39th Regiment he served in Canada at the battle of Plattsburgh, and on the returning of his company to Europe was present at the capture of Paris in 1815, and remained in France with the army till 1818. For his services he received the Peninsula medal with clasps for Corunna, Badajoz, Albuera, Nive, Othes, Toulouse, Peninsula, France—and was made a Knight Companion of the Royal Guelphic Order by his Majesty King William 4th, in the year 1835. His two brothers, Edward Thorp, Deputy Adjutant General to the Home Department, and Henry Thorp, Captain 4th West India Regiment, died before him, and on his death at Cheshunt,

in 1852, aged sixty-one years, his sword and medals came into the possession of his relatives at Macclesfield, Cheshire. A narrative of incidents in his military life was published in 1854 by Seeleys, of Hanover Square.

THORP, THOMAS, born at Chester on October 5, 1599, the eldest son of Alderman Thomas Thorp, vintner, Mayor of Chester in 1615, distinguished himself by his services as a Royalist during the times of the Civil War. An Alderman and Justice of the Peace for the city, having also filled the office of Mayor in 1637, he served in the City Train Band, and at a council held on December 1, 1643, was selected as one of eighteen commissioners for the defence of the City against the Parliament. From a copy of the commission in the possession of his descendants at Macclesfield, we learn that he "was made a Captain of a Foote Company in the Regiment of Sir Francis Gamull by his Matie, King Charles the first, as by his commission under the signe manuell of his said Matie, dated 13th Martig in the eighteenth yeare of his reigne appeareth (1643) and afterwards was constituted Major under the Right Honable, John Lord Byrom, Field Marshall General, and Commander in Chiefe, under His Highness, the Prince of Wales, of all the forces of Horse and Foote in the Countyes of Chester, Lancaster, and the six Countyes of North Wales as by his commission, dated 13th Oct. 21st Caroli primi appeareth (1646)." On Thursday, Sept. 25, 1640 after the battle of Rowton Heath, Captain Thorp attended the King with Sir Francis Gamull and Alderman Cowper over Dee Bridge with 500 horse to Denbigh Castle, in Wales. In 1646 the Parliament displaced him with nine others from their position as Aldermen, "as being violent fomenters of the unnatural wars against the Parliament" and he compounded for his property by the payment of £177. After the Restoration he was for the second time chosen Mayor of his native city (in 1661), and dying in 1669, was buried with his grandfather and father in the family grave at St. Michaels, Chester, on June 26. By his wife, Ellianor, sole daughter and afterwards heiress of Alderman William Gamull, Mayor of Chester in 1620, he left a son Thomas, who died in 1688. His three sisters married into well known Cheshire families, Katherine being the wife of Alderman Thomas Cowper of Overleigh, mayor of Chester in 1641. Margaret, the wife of William Parvell, sheriff in 16632, and Anne the wife of Alderman William Ince, mayor in 1642, and M.P. for Chester in 1662. Some of his descendants settled at Wilmslow, and afterwards at Macclesfield, in Cheshire.

THYNNE, FRANCIS, son of William Thynne, of Church Stretton, Salop, is supposed to have been born in that county in the early part of the 16th century. He is designated "The Herald," having written out with great care, and after much research, an account of his family, now in the College of Arms. In his narrative he states that the name of Thynne was derived from John Botteville, of Stretton, then called *John o'th Inne*, from his mansion in that place which went by the name of "The Inn," and who was his great grandfather through the eldest son Ralph, who was buried at Church Stretton in 1515. It is fair to say that Mr. Morris, of Shrewsbury, has shewn that even admitting the general accuracy of this writer's narrative, it is in some respects not to be entirely depended upon.

THYNNE, THOMAS, known "As of Drayton in Salop," was born within the county in 1640, but whether at Drayton or Stretton is uncertain. He was a man of considerable mark and ability, and in 1673 was chosen Member of Parliament for the University of Oxford. In 1581 Thomas Thynne of Longleat, in Wiltshire, was murdered

when he succeeded to his estates, and was the same year created Baron Thynne of Warminster, in Wiltshire, and Viscount Weymouth. He was pious, hospitable, and generous, a man of high honour and of great integrity. He died in 1714, very much lamented by the nation.

TILSTON, THOMAS, a living writer, who has before him a bright future, if we can but discern the promise aright from what he has hitherto done, was born at Birkenhead, Cheshire, in the year 1842, and is a descendant of a very ancient and respectable family of that name settled in that county. He was educated at Chester, and afterwards at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, where in 1861 he took his B.A. degree. Having been ordained to the curacy of Middleton in Teesdale, he very soon evinced his literary tastes by the publication of a work in two volumes, entitled "Dramatic, Narrative, and other Poems," and in 1879 he published another work, "The Return from the Captivity, Isandula, and other Poems," a work that will commend itself, and its author to the praise of cultivated men. He is now Vicar of St. Barnabas, Middle Hendon, in the county of Durham, but he remains a Cestrian in blood and also in sympathies, and, unlike his ancient kinsman, Archbishop Tillotson, is content to bear his name as he found it, without improvement in sound, because he is wise enough to know how honourable a name it has been in local history, when the more rounded one is quite unknown there.

TITLEY, RALPH, born, it is said, in the neighbourhood of Beeston, Cheshire, in the latter part of the fifteenth century, was brought up to the priesthood, and "at one time served the Church of Grate Draiton in Shropshire." One Ralph Tytteley is certainly mentioned as Vicar of Drayton in 1534, and he is supposed to be the last clergyman who celebrated the Mass in the parish church, for in that year the great quarrel between Rome and Henry the Eighth, led to the so-called Reformation, and soon afterwards the manor and living of Drayton passed into the hands of the Cottons of Combermere, who were careful to purge the church and parish of all the old leaven, for, fortunately for them, this helped to make them wealthy and earnest Protestants. There was a family of the name at the head of this notice long settled in Cheshire, but whether Ralph Titley and Tytteley represent one and the same person is not very clear, although the facts alluded to would fairly entitle us to determine the question in the affirmative.

TORPERLEY, GEORGE, "dwelling in Shrovesbury," but born in Cheshire, has made for himself a niche in local history as a Puritan, who in Queen Elizabeth's days kept his eyes and ears open to see whom he could devour. It was the Queen's pleasure that the Romanists should be well looked after, and one William Gerard, a member of the Council of the Marches, was supposed to do so; but our friend Torperley thought otherwise, and he, therefore, listened to every tale told to his prejudice, and through one Mr. Browne, a draper in the town, he conveyed to the Queen his suspicion of Gerard's integrity. The whole affair came to nothing; but it proves how religious animosity will convert a sober-minded Christian man into something like a spy. He is the same person mentioned by Fox as the messenger from the friends of Mr. Burton of Lognor to the minister of St. Chad's, asking that gentleman to allow the body to be interred in that church. That was again a vain effort on his part, for the parson in this instance happened to be a Papist, and he declined to permit the body to be buried in his holy temple. What became of Torperley when the Queen took it into her head to visit the Puritans with her anger we are

not told, but it requires no very great stretch of imagination to perceive how a foolish zeal, such as his evidently was, helped to fan the flame of persecution, and probably did as much dis-service to the Puritans as it did harm to religion.

TRAFFORD, THOMAS, a native of Bridge Trafford in Cheshire was the last of his eminent race, who, under that ancient name, possessed the lands of *Traghford*, which had been held by his ancestors under the Crown for many generations. This gentleman living in the sad period of our history when the great civil war burst upon the country, felt constrained to cast in his lot with his neighbours in defence of public rights. He fought upon many a field, but at the battle of Naseby he was killed, and his honoured name is added to the long roll of Border Worthies, who sealed their principles with their blood. He left at his death an only daughter, who, marrying John Barnston, Esq., carried the *Traghford* estates to that family.

TURNER, NATHANIEL, born in Cheshire 1793, became a Methodist Minister in 1819, and in 1822 proceeded to New Zealand, where he established the first Wesleyan Missionary Station in that great country. A true Apostolic spirit sustained him in that perilous undertaking, for neither his life nor property was safe, and before he had been there very long the Maories attacked him, burnt the Mission premises, and caused him and his wife to fly for their lives. We find him afterwards at Sydney, and then in the Friendly Islands, where with undiminished zeal he laboured for humanity. In 1836 he ventured back to New Zealand, and so long as he remained there he did immense good, both among the settlers and natives. He was at Brisbane for some time, and died there in 1864.

TURNER, THOMAS, born at Shrewsbury, became a Commoner of Balliol College in 1651, took one degree in arts, and then went to Grays Inn, and became a barrister. He wrote two or three books, and died in 1680. He bore a great reputation as a pleader, and is said to have been one of the very best Chamber lawyers of his day, distinguished chiefly for "niceties," or as we should now say, trickery in the methods he adopted to perplex his opponents.

TUSSINGHAM, JOHN, a Cheshire man by birth, is thus noticed by Sir Thomas Butler, vicar of Holy Trinity, Much Wenlock, under date of 1543. "Here was buried one of the almshouses, John Tussingham, a Cheshire man, born . . . he said unto me, Sir Thomas Butler, vicar of the church of the Holy Trinity of Much Wenlock, that he was of the age of seven score years, and I said it could not be so, and he was, as he had said, of the age of four score years at the Battle of Blower Heath, and since that there were three score years (count altogether said he, and ye shall find seven score years, rather more than less), and he said also that some time he was servant to the old Sir Gilbert Talbot, Knt., at the manor of Blakemore besides Whitchurch."

DECEMBER 17, 1879.

NOTES.

EMIGRATION FROM MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

The *Oswestry Herald* for Apr. 25, 1820, says, "During the past week, several families from Montgomeryshire passed through this town for Liverpool, where they intend to embark for the United States—that Land of Promise, whence so many thousands of deluded Englishmen have returned to their native country, in a state of wretchedness and beggary." H.B.

QUERIES.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF OSWESTRY.
Will such of your readers as are interested in the subject assist me in gathering particulars respecting the Ecclesiastical history of Oswestry? There is plenty of material extant, in MS. and in print; in the form of newspaper extracts of reports, anniversary placards, or such as announce re-openings, and various other documents in connection with churches and chapels: all of which would be useful for the purpose I have in view. I will promptly use and return any documents with which I may be intrusted.

JARCO.

REPLIES.

WELSH TROOPS FOR THE IRISH WAR.

(Mar. 7, 1879).

"Vicesimo primo die m'cii Anno R.R.ne d'ne n'ri
Eliz. nu'c &c. xlj^o 1598."

Memorand' that the daie and yeare aboue written I Captin Thomas Browne, authorised thereto by the Right honorable the Earle of Essex, lo: lyvetinn'te of Ireland, haue receauyvd att the Towne of Carn'von in the Countye of Carn'von, of willim Maurice, one of the depute lyvelinn'ts of that Countie, Gryffith ap John Gryffith, Robert Madryn, Hughe Gwynn Pennarth, and Gryffith Hughes, Esquior's Justices of the peace for the west p'te of that shire, being the allotment of the said willim maurice, the number of five and twente souldiers, of able and sufficient men for her ma'ties service in Ireland, accordinge to certeyne directions sent to the said lyvetenn'te and the rest, from her ma'tie, the lo: of her most honorable pryvye Counselle, and the Earle of Pembroke lord lyvetenunte gen'rall of Wales: The men are not furnished of armes, w'ch said lyvetenunte doth promise to be sufficiently provided for them, att Chester forthw'th. In witness whereof eyther p'tie to this Indenture trip'tite haue subscribed there names the daie and yeare first aboue written

ffor the three Comotts of llyn,
these thirteene men hereafter
subscribed are appointed
Gryffith ap willm Tudir
John Holland

Thomas ap Hughe ap James
Thomas ap John Wynne
Lewys ap Jen'u ap willm
Hughe david Jen'j [Jevan]
Jen'j ap willm ap Jen'y
Morys ap Howell
Hughe Willi'ms
Richard ap willm Gryffith
Morys Darys
hughe ap howell Thomas
Thomus Gwnnys

ffor the two comotts of Vychor and Evioneth
Elice ap Sander
Lewys ap Jeny
david ap John david ap willm
Morgan ap hughe
John ap hughe
Edward Holland
George Cheswecke
William Cobham
Charles Coldewell
Richard Adderton
Thomas Wilkes
William Hughes

[From the original at Brogyntyn]

Will'm maurice
Tho Browne
Gruffith John gr.
Rbt madryn
Hugh gwynn Pennarth
Gruffith Hughes

W.

THE FELTONS OF OSWESTRY (Oct. 22, 1879.)

When I was a little boy (and that was hard upon seventy years ago) I have heard my father repeat an old Oswestry story about one of these Feltons. As JARCO says, they were Nonconformists. About the middle of the last century, or rather earlier, the Rev. Joseph Venables was minister of the Dissenting community (see *Bye-gones*, Sep. 3, 17) and his conduct not being such as his people approved, they wished him to leave, and eventually, and chiefly through the persistency of Mr. Felton the *brazier*, he did so. In his "Farewell Sermon" Mr. Venables had his revenge, for he took for his text II. Tim. 3 c. 14 v., "Alexander the *coppersmith*, did me much evil; the Lord reward him according to his works." BEN STARCH.

I have several documents relating to the Feltons of Oswestry, they lived in the old house in Bailey-street, where the Jamesons afterwards lived, and the letters "J.F." with the date of the year used to be paved in white stones in front of the door, but it disappeared many years ago. Some of the documents are endorsed Williams to Felton, 1674, John Felton to Thomas Felton, 1693, — Felton to Jameson 1790. I should like to know whether the Feltons and Jamesons were related in any way. E.A.R.

The Felton family dated earlier in Oswestry history than has been mentioned in the recent note in *Bye-gones*. In Nov 1873, you published a list of the Town-councilmen named on the charter of Charles II., in 1673, and amongst the names was "Thomas Felton, brazier," as one who refused to serve. ARGUS.

SHREWSBURY SCHOOL MOTTO (Nov. 5, 1879).—In answer to this query, which you extracted from *Notes and Queries*, two replies have appeared (one signed BOILEAU, an occasional contributor of *Bye-gones*). From these we gather that there are several variations of the inscription, in the order as well as in the accents. It is properly:—

Ἐὰν ἦς φιλομαθὴς ἔσῃ πολυμαθὴς.

Isocrates, *Orat. ad Demonium*.

A local history, after referring to the original schoolroom of timber and the erection of the present stone edifice in 1630, gives the quotation thus:—

Ἐὰν ἦς φιλομαθὴς ἔσῃ πολυμαθὴς.

As the inscription is in capitals, errors of accentuation or transposition might easily arise. W. P.

CARAVANSERY AT DOLGELLEY (Apr. 23, 1879).—It appears that the public house better known in Dolgelley as Plasnewydd, was formerly known as "Caravansery." The word was painted on a sign in front of the house, and there are people still living who remember them well. That sign must have been there about sixty or sixty-five years ago. I have not met with any one under sixty-five years of age who can remember them. The house within my recollection was, and is still, called "Plasnewydd." On the sign some forty years ago there was a picture of a "Red Lion" (rampant, I think), and the words Red Lion are, or lately were, still on the sign. But it is very seldom that the name Red Lion is used—the common name is Plasnewydd. The house stands at the top of the Market Place. The present tenant is Edward Ellis, but the house, as well as the whole surrounding block, belongs to the Llwyn Estate. In the time of "Old Griffith Jones," a fat, jolly, good-natured, but testy old fellow—quite a character in Dolgelley forty years ago—and "Shân Jones" his wife, the house was a great resort of travellers, espe-

cially those who had horses or any kind of vehicles, and coming to the town from the direction of Towyn on one side, and Machynlleth and Dinas Mawddwy on the other. It had what then was considered good stabling; and the middle of "Y Stryt Fawr," in front of the house, was very convenient for the carts and vehicles; and to see then half a dozen or a dozen carts on the street was not unusual; and on fair days the same custom prevails to this day. The "large parlour" as it is called, of Plasnewydd, 60 years ago, before the Angel, Ship, and Lion Hotels were re-built, must have been one of the largest rooms in the town, and it was extensively used, not only for holding sales by auction, but as show-room and sale-room by commercial men and manufacturers, especially from Montgomeryshire, Shropshire, and the adjoining counties, and by corn-factors and merchants from those districts, and is so occasionally to this day. What strikes me as curious is, that although I never heard the name "Caravansery" applied to the house by a native of Dolgelley, yet I am told that it is not an unusual thing to hear a Shropshire man coming to Dolgelley for the first time, asking for the "Caravansery," and may not the fact that the name of the old hostelry has remained in Shropshire, when almost entirely forgotten in Dolgelley, be a relic of the days when Shrewsbury was the chief business town of this district, and when two or three large stage waggons started weekly on Monday morning, from Dolgelley to Shrewsbury, and returning here by Saturday morning.

Dolgelley.

OWEN REES.

CURRENT NOTES.

The Swansea Public Library Committee decided on Thursday, Dec. 11, to purchase the library of the late Rev. R. Jones of Rotherhithe—a collection of unique and rare Welsh books, with the view of forming a Welsh national reference library. About £500 will be raised for the purpose by loan, repayable at the rate of £100 per annum.

SHROPSHIRE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting was held in the Museum, Shrewsbury, on Tuesday, Dec. 9, Canon Butler in the chair. Mr. Adnitt, the hon. sec., presented the report of the Council, which commenced with the gratifying fact that the Society had a balance of £70 at its bankers. Cordial thanks were expressed to Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., for the trouble and expense he had been put to in preparing the Records of the Oswestry Corporation, and hopes were entertained that the documents connected with other Corporations of the county would be treated in like manner. The Council also appealed to clergymen and others for help in the preparation of Village Histories, a very desirable feature in the journals of societies of this nature, and the report went on to state that consent had been obtained to copy what is known as "Taylor's MS." in the Shrewsbury School Library, a manuscript that contains many items of county history. The report concluded with a just recognition of the services of the Rev. W. A. Leighton and his co-editors, and Mr. Adnitt, the hon. sec. The Rev. C. H. Drinkwater was appointed honorary curator of the numismatic department of the museum, and his name was added to the Council, as was also that of the Rev. T. Auden. It was also agreed to purchase Eyton's "Antiquities of Shropshire," and Owen and Blakeway's "History of Shrewsbury" for the reference library at the Museum, and Mr. Adnitt made a suggestion about the Museum itself that it will be well should not drop. It was that the Society should try and secure the Shrewsbury Grammar School, when the premises are vacated, for the purpose of a county museum and library.

The winter session of the Menai Society of Natural Science and Literature was opened on Thursday evening, Dec. 11, at Bangor, by an interesting lecture by Professor Rudler on "Prehistoric Times in Wales." In the course of his address the Professor said that there was ground for believing that the dark people of Wales were really the representatives of the flint using neolithic inhabitants of that country. North Wales contained a large number of dark people at the present time. He found that seventy-five per cent. of the students at the University College of Wales were extremely dark. When they saw a Welshman who was short in stature had dark hair, oval features, and a mild expression, they might look upon him as a relic of the oldest inhabitants of the island—the neolithic barrow builders.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Dec. 10, 1879.)

UPTON, JAMES, who, according to his patron, Mr. William Williams, late M.P. for Coventry and Lambeth, was born in Monmouthshire in the early part of the present century, must be classed among the very best of the political versifiers called into existence by the unblushing immorality of that paragon of imperfections, King George the Fourth. We say nothing of the party feeling which led one set of politicians to denounce the Sovereign as the personification of all that was bad, nor of that which induced the other side to close their eyes to his many crimes, but James Upton provided both sets with songs which they could use pro or con as they listed. The following is a fair sample of his talent, and was meant for the Jingoes of "the King and Constitutional clubs" then in vogue:—

God bless the King, God bless the Princess Charlotte,
God bless the Guards, God bless their coats of scarlet,
God bless their horse-hair, though the people scoff,
God bless their pigtails, though they're now cut off,
God bless all those, who've anything to give;
Long may "Long Tiney Wellesley Long Pole" live;
And if in Downing Street, the Devil himself should revel—
Prime Minister of State, then—BLESS THE DEVIL.

He was a genius undoubtedly, but addicted to strong waters, and in company with far too many of his cloth he sang to order, wasted his substance, and died in penury. His verses were often claimed by other writers for their own, and in some instances have been re-published as such, but the genuine composer of them cared not for that indignity, his reward being once assured to him in coin, the purchaser could do what he liked with the article. This unhappy man died in 1840, we cannot say, regretted by a large circle of friends, for he blushed unseen, and was timid as a child, a stranger in a strange land, and his harp was, as a rule, hung upon the willows.

UTKINTON, RAUFFE, supposed to have been grandfather to Richard Done of Utkinton, who flourished in the time of King John. This statement, however, does not appear to have any genuine authority beyond a very ancient manuscript, although it may be, and probably is, true, for Mr. Ormerod says, "the Dones may be considered with great probability to bear the ancient name of Utkinton." If, as he says, "the first of the Dones who possessed Utkinton under the Barons of Kinderton was Richard Done" aforesaid, it follows almost as a certainty that his grandfather had no lands which he could call his own; but that is of no moment in fact, for both Richard and his knightly successors secured abundance of that commodity afterwards; the Kinderton Barons, however, could not supply him with a grandfather. In a written pedigree of the Hasyard Dones, Rauffe Utkinton is mentioned as one of their

ancestors, but as Rauffe of Utkinton—a convenient way, long in use by races who desire to go back to the conquest, but who had to slur over their small beginnings. These Dones need not do that, for, down from Richard to Sir John Dene, who died in the fourth of Elizabeth, they had stamped their fame upon the page of history, had allied themselves to the proudest families in the land, and even in this present day, their blood is boasted of in the Herald's College. We carry them two descents nearer to William of Normandy than Ormerod does, and be Rauffe rich or be he poor, genteel or humble of birth, we give him his proper place in these records as the honest ancestor of the very brave and gallant Dones.

VANGLWYD, EDWARD, a Welsh poet who flourished in the fifteenth century was born upon the borders of Glamorganshire, but within the county of Monmouth. His eminence as a Bard placed him in the president's chair in a Glamorganshire Eisteddfod in the year 1500. We prefer, however, to think of him as *Iorwerth Fynglwyd*, the salaried bard attached to Margam Abbey, and the author of an elegy on the poet Llawdden, and of the legend of St. Ffraid as printed in Mr. Williams's admirable *History of Aberconwy*. According to the *History of Eminent Welshmen*, "many of his compositions are preserved in manuscript," and if these are comparable to the two we have mentioned, they deserve publication, and so does the author of them deserve a far fuller notice than we can give him in these records. Mr. Richard Llwyd fixes the date of his death at 1506.

VAUGHAN, EDWARD, born near Monmouth in the year 1450, was educated, it is supposed, at Cambridge. He held preferments in the Church, being minister of St. Matthew's, London, 1487, and vicar of Islington. In 1493 he appears to have held a prebend in St. Paul's Cathedral, in 1509 he became Archdeacon of Lewes, and in the same year he was consecrated Bishop of St. David's where in 1522 he died, being buried in the Holy Trinity Chapel, which he had himself erected there. The chapel of Llawheding Castle was built by him. His charities were unbounded, and the treasurers of St. Paul's, London, have to thank him for a residence which he provided for their use.

VAUGHAN, EDWARD, a busy man of the world in the time of Edward the fourth, whose cause he had very naturally espoused, was born in Monmouthshire; and made his way to London, where, by the interest of his friends, he became a person of consequence. He held some office in the gift of the Bishop of London, and his name is brought down to us by the part he took against "one Warner of London, who pleaded that he was not bound to pay tithes to his curate," whereupon Vaughan, by command of the Bishop, sent him to prison. That quick sort of punishment served well enough then, but Warner managed to escape, and brought an action against Vaughan for false imprisonment, and thus we are made acquainted with a nice point of law, and the practice of the judges of that day. The action having been commenced, Vaughan had to meet it, which he did by "Pleading the statute of Henry the fourth, and that Warner's opinion was an heresie against the Catholic faith." The Court of Common Pleas held "that the words were not within the meaning of the statute, that Warner's opinion was an error, but no heresie." Here then we have a claim set up by the judges of a *Civil Court* so early as the 5th year of Edward the fourth, to determine what was heresie in law, a precedent of some moment at a time when a powerful body of educated men decline to submit themselves to a lay tribunal upon questions of faith and ritual. Vaughan's name has been hidden under a bushel for cen-

turies, but it may flourish again through this one act of his, and bring him to greater fame than any military service he had ever rendered to the Mortimers.

VAUGHAN, EDWARD, a Monmouthshire man by birth, is mentioned in an old Welsh manuscript somewhat contemptuously, because he supported Henry the Fourth. How he came to do so is not very apparent, for his kindred were settled at Llwyn Derw in Flintshire, and favoured the pretensions of Owen Glyndwr to the kingly office in North Wales, at least. His father, Gwilym Vychan was a Welshman, and probably he married an English woman, if we may dare to call Monmouthshire English. The couple might have changed the metre where the poet exclaimed—

This is the deadly spite that angers me,
My wife can speak no English, I no Welsh.

The son, however, though clinging to the "English interest," was handy enough with both tongues, for he composed some excellent Welsh poetry, even when serving with might and main against the Welsh people. It is clear from his "singing" that he was present at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403, and that he afterwards accompanied Henry of Monmouth to France. It is stated in a note that he was killed there, but if that be true he must have gone there more than once. The ancient Britons looked upon every man who bore a Cambrian name as a traitor if he gave support to the Saxons, but many a true Welshman did so nevertheless, and we are unwilling to make Edward Vaughan a castaway to satisfy the prejudices which have happily long since died out.

VAUGHAN, HUGH, a "bold Welshman," who followed the fortunes of Henry of Richmond when at their lowest, and afterwards became a trusted servant of the monarch when he had gained the Crown. He was a native of Monmouthshire, deriving from a family who had dwelt there for generations, and like most of his countrymen, over zealous in support of his "blood," demanding as of right to carry Court armour on his shield, and to take precedence over Englishmen who were every whit his equals. Sir James Parker, a warm headed gentleman, called in question his pretensions, and this led to a great controversy, which could only be settled by an appeal to arms. The King—Henry the Seventh—held a grand tournament at Richmond in Surrey in 1492, and there the affronted courtiers agreed to determine their dispute. In the very first course Sir James Parker was killed, and Vaughan thus became a double victor, for he retained his coat unquestioned, and he had killed his man! So the age of chivalry maintained its glory, and in its pre-eminence; the king no doubt esteemed this proof of valour as a thing to be honoured, but the greater King could only look upon it with displeasure; that probably counts for very little as yet, but how will it be when the end comes?

VAUGHAN, JAMES, born at or near Leominster, in the early part of the eighteenth century, having been brought up to the medical profession, settled when quite a young man in the town of Leicester, where he acquired great fame as a leading physician. He was rarely carried away into the adoption of startling new methods of practice, but he never shut his eyes to the progress then making in medical science, and may be looked upon, therefore, as among the foremost of his brethren who gave a thoughtful attention to all modern appliances whereby pain might be mitigated and life prolonged. In Dr. Vaughan we meet with a man eminent alike for a profound knowledge of his profession, and a pious resignation to Providence in the heroic practice of it, and thus his services were doubly blessed to the sick and afflicted, in the attention he gave to their

bodily and to their spiritual wants. His great qualities descended to his successors after the flesh, for all his sons were pre-eminent in ability character, and piety, none more so than his grandson, the present Master of the Temple and Dean of Llandaff, a gentleman whose name and fame must ever redound to his own honour, as it does to that of the noble man now under notice. Dr. Vaughan died at Leicester, but we have not been able to ascertain the date of his death.

VAUGHAN, JOHN, was born at Chester in the year 1813, and when quite a youth, devoted himself to Sabbath school teaching at Boughton, in the outskirts of his native place. He assisted in getting a small place of worship, erected there, and preached to his neighbours; and so acceptable did his services become that he was sent to Homerton College, London, to receive a regular training for the ministry; but he had not been very long there before he became ill, and had to be sent back home, where after a very short illness he died, and was buried at Queen-street Chapel yard in Chester, much regretted by the citizens generally.

VAUGHAN, WATKIN, born in Monmouthshire, and son to Thomas ap Roger, who was slain at Banbury in 1469, is one of the great warriors, whose names and deeds commanded so much respect in ancient times. He married Sibylla, daughter of Sir James Baskerville of Eardisley, and thus gave the bards an opportunity of doing him honour. *Lewis Glyn Cothi*, addressed several odes to him, and in one of these, written soon after the battle of Danesmore, he urges him to unfurl his banner, and "take signal vengeance upon the English." So popular was Vaughan among Welshmen, that he had but to call them to arms than they flocked to his standard from all parts of the country, and many are the recorded instances when this bold leader covered his name with glory, and deluged his country with blood. Happily the day came when the pen became more powerful than the sword, and although we are bound to rehearse the gallant deeds of this eminent Monmouthian, we cannot but rejoice that the art of war has been partly superseded by the more glorious arts of peace.

VENABLES, JOHANNA, who is stated to have been the second daughter of Hugh Venables of Kinderton, was born in Chester, she gained for herself a somewhat undeniable notoriety, as second wife of Sir Thomas Latham of Knowsley, who died at that house about 1382, after an illness of three months, and was *hastily buried without ceremony*. Johanna was adulterously pregnant at the time of her husband's death, by her paramour, Roger Fazakerleigh, and immediately upon Sir Thomas's decease she married that person. It is not said in so many words that the guilty pair had conspired to put Sir Thomas to death, but the inference from the facts narrated would lead to the conclusion that he had been slowly poisoned, and that the parties to this foul deed hoped in their issue to enjoy the wealth of the murdered man.

VENABLES, ROBERT, who flourished in Cromwell's days, was a well-known Cheshire man, who served in the West Indies as Colonel of a British expedition. He was connected with the Wincham and Antrobus families, and did honour to his name, more perhaps by his courage than by his successes. In 1655 he was on his way to Barbadoes, being in command of the land forces sent out to attack Hispaniola; and although we did not then gain all we expected, Jamaica was secured for the British, and a wholesome impression of our power was wafted to many a distant land. The oft-told tale of England's want of management is a part of Col. Venables's story, for the expedition under his

command was badly fitted out, and our brave countrymen, as usual, suffered more from the short-comings of our Government than they did from the prowess of the enemy. There is a very interesting account given of this gallant worthy in one of the published volumes of the Chetham Society, and the reader is referred to it for further information respecting him.

VERNON, THOMAS, born in the neighbourhood of Chester in the year 1599, is among the earliest of his name who settled in America. He was greatly opposed to the Stuarts, being a rigid Protestant, and we rather think a Puritan, for he appears to have left his native land soon after the accession of James the first, and to have settled in Germany for some time, afterwards proceeding to the New England settlements, where he founded a family, who have since endeavoured to trace themselves through him to the eminent families of his name long settled in the Border Counties. He had married into the Norbury family, and his eldest son was born in England, and is supposed to have returned from America to this country soon after the restoration, but he was never married, and died in London before the close of the seventeenth century, a small work from his pen has been attributed to the father chiefly, it is thought because it attacked the Popish leanings of King James.

DECEMBER 24, 1879.

NOTES.

WEATHER ADAGE.—The following was a few years ago seen written inside a clock case at Plasgwyn, in the parish of Llansaintffraid:—

"A Saturday's moon and a Sunday's fill,
Have never been good nor never will."

The moon that changed on Saturday, the 19th of July, and the one that was full on Sunday, the 31st of August, proved but too true the correctness of the observation of our forefathers. CYFFIN.

[The *Cheshire Sheaf* of Sep. 3, 1879, gives the following version of the lines as a proverb once current in that county:—

"A Saturday's moon, and Sunday's full,
Never was foine, and never will."

In commenting on it the writer says:—"It was New Moon on Saturday the 19th of July, and Full Moon on Saturday the 2nd of August, New Moon again on Sunday the 17th, and Full Moon on Sunday the 21st."—ED.]

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES. — Would you kindly allow me to state in *Bye-gones*, that Messrs. Woodall and Venables have been good enough to arrange for the re-publication of both series of "*Border Counties Worthies*," as they have appeared in the *Oswestry Advertiser*? The work will be issued early in 1880, and will contain something over two thousand short notices of natives of Cheshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire, and, although it is not altogether free from imperfections, I may say that neither trouble nor expense has been spared in verifying its contents. My chief object, however, in calling attention to this re-issue is, to express the hope that all readers of *Bye-gones* who may take an interest in Border Counties Biography, will be good enough to communicate to me any new information they may possess, and any needful corrections that may come under their notice, with a view of enabling me, at some future time, to publish an improved edition of the work in a standard volume. I shall also be glad to receive short notices of other "*worthies*," who may have escaped my own observation; for it is desirable on every account that the lives and actions of our famous borderers should

be preserved for posterity, and that even the more humble of them, who by speech or pen, or who have in some other way added honour to their county should be recorded upon the page of local history as benefactors to mankind. Glanaber, Chester. E. R. G. SALISBURY.

[We trust our correspondents will bear in mind this request of Mr. Salisbury's, and that we shall, from time to time, be able to perfect his valuable collection by additions and corrections.—ED.]

QUERIES.

A HUNTING INCIDENT.—In the *Salopian Journal* for March 1, 1835, the following curious advertisement appears:—"During a Run with Sir Rowland Hill's Hounds on Saturday, the 21st ult., and when near to Morgan's Pool, a Hunting Whip was given for a few minutes by a gentleman into the hands of some unknown person riding with them; which whip has gilt socket and glass. Whoever is in possession of the same, and will take it to Will. Staples, huntsman, or deliver it to the printer of this paper, will be liberally rewarded." One is curious to know whether the whip was restored?

TALLY-HO.

REPLIES.

OLD OSWESTRIANS (Sep. 17, 1879).—*Mrs. Hennings*. Mention was made of this lady, Sep. 10. In the minute books of the Oswestry Incorporation there is an entry which states that money was raised on mortgage to erect the Oswestry House of Industry in 1791-2, and amongst the sums there is one of £400 borrowed from Mrs. Magdalen Hennings. JARCO.

CHURCH BELLS (Dec. 3, 1879).—The fifth bell at *Llandinam*, Mont., bears the following inscription:—"Ora pro nobis sancta Maria." This runs around the bell in relief. The 6th bell bears date 1640. D.K.

Hordley Bells.—The Rev. J. W. MOORE, Hordley Rectory, in noticing the inscription copied from *Bye-gones* into the *Church Times* and other papers, says, in *Salopian Shreds and Patches*, Dec. 17, that the letters, though worn, are correctly copied from the Old English Characters on the bell, and adds, "We thought at first that the letters we deciphered 'trinitas' might be the name of some saint, but careful inspection decides that they are 'trinitas' and nothing else. If there were any doubt as to the 'ora pro' which there is not, the letters could not be 'miserere,' for whatever they are they are only six." Mr. MOORE says there is also a bell at Hordley of the date 1686, with the inscription, "Omne quod spirat laudet Dominum." ED.

WELSH AND BORDER PRESS (Sep. 5, 1877). *Dolgelley*. The publisher of a quarto edition of the works of *Josephus* in Welsh was the late Mr. Richard Jones, printer, of Dolgelley. R. Jones served his apprenticeship with Thomas Williams, who commenced business as printer in this town about 1795, and printed several small Welsh books. Jones was afterwards taken into partnership. I have seen several small books bearing the imprint "Williams a Jones, Argraffwyd, Dolgellau." Richard Jones, however, soon became sole proprietor, Williams retiring. He published many books, including, among others, a quarto edition of *Walters' dictionary*. He died about 1855. His widow continued to carry on the business until 1859, when the whole of the printing materials were sold to the writer. OWEN REES.

WELSH SOLDIERS FOR IRELAND.

(Dec. 17, 1879).

"After my heartie comendac'ons I send yo'u herein-closed, the Coppies aswell of her ma'ts Pres, as of the hands of her highnes privey Councell, deli'u'd me yester-night touchinge a certaine Number of men speedily to be sent from these p'tes vnto Ireland. I dowbt not of your dutifull & diligent care in the accomplishment of this hir mat's [pleass'r] the w'che being sufficientlie expressed in the said coppies, I need not to give yo'u any further direc'con but wish yo'u to p'ceede therin as yo'u will ans'w'r to the contraye at yo'r p'lls. And so I bydd yo'u fare well, frome hir highnes Castell at ludlowe, the xvijth of October 1596

"Yo'r Loving frend

"PEMBROOKE."

"The names of the counties of Wales whence vn thousand men are to be levied of the service of Ireland

Pembroke.....	100
Carm'then.....	100
Cardigan.....	100
Carn'von.....	50
Denbigh.....	100
fflinte.....	100
Glamorgan.....	100
Mountgom'ey.....	50
Meirionyth.....	50
Breaknocke.....	100
Monmoth.....	100
Radnor.....	50

"To my loving frends the Depietie Lieutennts & Justic's of Peace of the Countie of Carn'von." W.

DOVASTON'S WALNUT TREE (Sep. 10, 1879).

As no one has answered the question put by *SALOPIAN*, I beg to say that the Shakespeare Walnut Tree at West-felton, becoming decayed at the root, was replaced by another walnut tree in 1874. This was done without disturbing the wine bottle or examining the inscription. Mr. John Clavering Wood was a learned botanist and naturalist who lived on his estate at Marsh Hall, near Westbury. The literary friends were numerous, and they continued annually to meet at the Nursery on Shakespeare's birthday till the health of the late J. F. M. Dovaston failed in 1847. Among them were poets, painters, actors, doctors, lawyers, musicians, and divines, almost all now dead. I remember some and give a few:—Messrs. Ralph Rylance, J. H. Reynolds, J. W. Giles, D. and J. Parkes, T. N. Henshaw, Charles Pemberton, Fawcett, Cherry, Young, Bannister, Clement, Webster, Llewellyn, E. D. Bennion, Jas. M. Croft, L. Bland, Rd. Tudor, Milward E. Dovaston, T. Yates, Vincent Roger Corbet, J. Eddowes, Bowman, Jo. Warren, Charles Jas. Stewart, Ex. Pickering, G. Parker, Hy. Bloxham, Thos. Pierce, J. Hughes, Peter Horseman, Revd. C. A. A. Lloyd, Revd. W. A. Leighton, Rev. W. Crotch, Mrs. Hayman, Miss Yates, Miss Williams, John Dovaston, &c., J.D.

Nursery, Westfelton, Salop.

THE OLD COACHING DAYS (Nov. 19, 1879).—The following will form a fitting conclusion to the Coaching paragraphs of *Bye-gones*, series 1878-9. "The superiority of travelling was never better exemplified than by that celebrated Coach, the London and Shrewsbury *Wonder*, which left London the same time as the railway train, and arrived in Birmingham on Tuesday night nearly an hour before it. Several parties coming by the train with a view to going on to Salop the same evening experienced disappointment in not being able to do so." The period of which I write is April, 1838, and the newspapers

of the time say that it was by no means an unusual thing for the *Wonder* to beat the Train. The line from Birmingham to Shrewsbury was not then made, and the Shrewsbury coaches did not run in connection with the railway. Before the year was out, however, the *Wonder* had so far succumbed as to run into the station yard at Birmingham (for the convenience of passengers) on its way to and from London. JARCO.

THE DEVIL IN THE WAY (Sep. 24, 1879).—With reference to the above Query, it is a remarkable fact that to this day the inhabitants of the borders of Shropshire and Montgomeryshire attach the greatest importance to wearing a garment the wrong side out; as for instance it is considered most unlucky if a lady should by accident have put on one of her skirts the wrong side out. Nothing would induce the unfortunate one to take it off unassisted, and to avert the bad luck she must have the garment removed by another person. On the other hand the surest preventative of witchcraft is to wear your stocking on the left foot the wrong side out, and should you unknowingly wear your stocking the wrong side out, it is considered lucky and an omen for good. J.

CURRENT NOTES.

OPENING OF THE MARKET HALL AT ELLESMERE.

The new Market which has been provided for Ellesmere is erected on a site in Scotland-street, belonging to the Earl Brownlow, who, on being made acquainted with the wishes of the Local Board, generously made a present of the land. It may be of interest to state that the local government of Ellesmere is vested in a Local Board, elected by the ratepayers, which was established in 1859. Previously to that period the local authority was in the hands of a bailiff and court leet, under the Lord of the Manor. The bailiff has now no duty to perform except to call public meetings at the requisition of the inhabitants. The staff of the bailiff is tipped with silver, and bears the arms of King James I., and the date, 1604, at one end, and at the other the arms of Thomas Egerton, Baron of Ellesmere, Lord Chancellor of England. The staff has been in the hands of the bailiff of Ellesmere 275 years. Earl Brownlow is still Lord of the Manor, being the lineal descendant and heir of the Lord Chancellor Ellesmere in the tenth generation. The opening of the new Market Hall took place on Tuesday, Dec. 23, when the ceremony was performed by Miss Cust, daughter of Major Cust, M.P., chairman of the Ellesmere Local Board.

BORDER COUNTIES WORTHIES.

(Dec. 17, 1879.)

WALKER, DAVID MOLYNTON, a good citizen of ancient Cestria, and a respectable tradesman there in 1427, when John Hope was "Maioir," cannot well be passed over, seeing that his name is immortalized in the Harleian Manuscripts, as a complainant against his apprentice, Richard Walker, who "played at dice for dry money contrary to his counsel," and for which offence "he did bite him and chastise him." The paternal government of the day did not admit his right to do so; but he nevertheless complains "that the sherreffes of the city do trouble him contrary to law and reason, seeing there is no law to punish any man for bating of his wife or prentice, he therefore desiring that he may not be any longer vexed, but may chastise his apprentice" at pleasure, appeals with confidence to the higher power for protection. What the worthy "Maioir" said to all this does not appear, although it is probable enough that good David might have found a better friend

in Mr. Hope than in the "sherreffes," who, being themselves of the "meaner sorte," rather favoured the "prentice" at the cost of the master. The "good old times" patriarchal as they may seem to have been in comparison with these modern ones, when we are supposed to have only one law for rich and poor, (if our lawyers are to be believed,) were not altogether perfect, and there are numerous cases on record where one high authority favoured one class in particular, and another took pleasure in just doing the very opposite.

WALLENSIS, THOMAS, who in 1247 was appointed Bishop of St. David's, is mentioned in an old MS. as Thomas Vanganensis, and is said to have been born in Monmouthshire; but Leland calls him *Valence*, and Willis makes him out to be "a Welshman," but upon no quoted authority. The whole account is very problematical, but seeing how all the country now called Monmouthshire was at one time a part of Wales, it may be that Willis has designated him correctly. He states that at one time he was Archdeacon of Lincoln; a benefactor to the diocese of St. David's; and that he died in 1255, when he was succeeded by Bishop Carew. The manuscript account of him prominently dwells upon his saintly character, his devotion to the Church, and the many acts of beneficence he performed from a love to God, and in obedience to the Divine command to have a care for the poor.

WALTERS, THOMAS, born at Mynyddislwyn, Monmouthshire, in the year 1729, is one of those well-to-do men who in early Nonconformist days devoted much of their time and of their substance to promote religion in South Wales. He was chosen pastor of an Independent Church at or near his native place in 1764 or 1765; and thenceforth, to his death in 1794, he ministered in that church. Old Philip David, "the hypercritic of his day," did not appreciate his style of preaching, which doubtless means that he was over Methodist in his ways, fond of effect, and of arousing the people to enthusiasm; but others speak highly and kindly of him, they declare him to be a truly evangelical man, kind, affable, pious, and earnest in his work. In any case his name comes down to us commended by his many virtues; and his public position as a minister justifies us in giving some prominence to him in these records as a good servant of Jesus Christ.

WALTERS, THOMAS, was born at Mynyddislwyn, Monmouthshire, in the year 1761. He preached for many years among the Methodists, but eventually became Minister of the Independent Church at New Inn, Glamorganshire. He was nephew to the last named, and like him, very anxious to do good service to his countrymen. It is noticeable in his life how the narrow sectarian prejudices of the day interfered with the free intercourse of Nonconformists with each other. So long as Mr. Walters adhered to his Methodist views, he was popular with that earnest sect; but when he became an Independent, his popularity vanished, and thenceforth he was looked upon as a dry methodical preacher, satisfying no one. When he came to die in 1821, he enjoyed a peace which the world could neither give nor take away from him; and upon the whole we are disposed to esteem him a much better and far more useful man, than the general run of writers have confessed him to be.

WARBURTON, ROWLAND, a Cheshire man, and a member of the Arley family, has been made immortal in the old ballad called "Lady Bessye," as published in Percy's collection. Sir William Stanley was believed to hang fire when the fate of England lay in the balance on the eve of the battle of Bosworth. Richard did not fully trust him, nor did Henry of Richmond; but, if we are to

accept the testimony of the old ballad, and adopt it for history—which may often be done with safety—Stanley had, in fact, made up his mind to support Richmond, and only pretended to stand neuter in the coming struggle. He is made to be at Holt watching the wind and enquiring from his followers how it standeth. On being informed that it “standeth now south-west,” he exclaimed—“This night yonder Royal prince into England entereth”—meaning thereby Richmond; and then —

He called that gentleman that stood him by,
His name was *Rowland Warburton*.
He bad him go to Shrewsbury that night,
And bad him let that prince in come.

Whatever doubt may have been cherished as to Stanley's zeal, there can be none as to the energy and haste with which brave Rowland Warburton fulfilled his mission; “for these Cheshire squires, when they take up a side, enter upon it with gallantry and courage,” and it is but reasonable to suppose that this young gallant did honour to his name both at Shrewsbury and at Bosworth, and so added to the many laurels that had already crowned it in days long past. The ballad history of England often comes down to us crowned with glory, for it abounds in records of chivalry, and it tells us of deeds done by our brave sires which will for ever live in our most affectionate remembrances.

WARBURTON, ROWLAND EYLES EGERTON, is the eldest son of the late Rev. Rowland Egerton of Oulton Park, Cheshire. He was born in that county in the year 1804, and became heir to his great uncle, Sir Peter Warburton, whose name was assumed by the father in 1813, when he succeeded to the Arley Estates. Educated at Eton and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, with ample means at his command, Mr. Warburton, as might be expected, has spent his life at home as a country gentleman, serving the office of High Sheriff and fulfilling other ordinary duties of a person of his local distinction; but he claims notice in these records as the author of “Hunting songs and miscellaneous verses” of no common order. The work is one of great excellence, and of deserved popularity. Upon the quaint text—“For honest hunting never was accounted sinne, nor never shall for mee,” the author has sung a good moral song, encouraging thereby the sport which has done so much to make Englishmen famous horsemen, brave warriors, gallant gentlemen, and if we may be allowed to say so, loyal and true men; for putting politics aside there is nothing so likely to knit men together in defence of their country as the “meet,” where daring, and strict obedience to law, go hand in hand in pursuit of the one great object that has brought men together—the fame and glory of the British sportsman.

WARD, MARGARET, born at or near Congleton in Cheshire in the early part of the sixteenth century, is mentioned in the local records of the county as a lady who had adventured her own life in saving that of Richard Watson, a Jesuit priest. He had been imprisoned for his religion, and it was supposed that his life was in danger. Mrs. Ward managed to worm herself into the confidence of his gaoler, and after a long attendance upon the prisoner, she succeeded in conveying to him a rope and other convenient appliances, by means of which he escaped from Bridewell and got away. She was, therefore, taken into custody, acknowledged her guilt, was condemned to die, and executed at Tyburn on the 30th of August, 1568. One writer states that Mr. Watson was a relative of hers; but this supposed fact is not verified. It is far more likely that she undertook her perilous mission from a loving regard for her religion, and that she was animated by the noble conviction that she should do her utmost to save a

priest from death. In any case, her courage entitles her to remembrance, and however much we may question the wisdom or propriety of her conduct, it is impossible to condemn her zeal, or to doubt her fidelity to her faith.

WARD, VALENTINE, born at Madeley, Salop, in the year 1781, became a preacher among the Methodists in 1801, and eventually he went out as a Missionary to the West India Islands. He was much beloved in England, and successful in every circuit to which he was appointed; but the degraded condition of the Negroes, the neglect of them in England, and the assured hope he possessed of being able to do them some service, induced him to give up a Metropolitan circuit, so that he might enter upon foreign labour. “I count not my life dear unto me, so that I may finish my course with joy,” was his answer to every friend who dissuaded him from the mission service; and he did finish his course with an exceeding great joy at Montego Bay, in 1835, having been enabled to preach with very marked success the unsearchable riches of Christ to the poor Negroes of that distant land.

WARNCOMBE, JAMES, son of Richard Warncombe of Hereford, and cousin or nephew, it is thought, of a gentleman of the same name who at one time represented Leominster in Parliament, succeeded, on the death of his father, to the Manor of Lugwardin, in his native county. He was of the “old religion a true follower,” but he managed so to demean himself in the profession of it, as not to offend the prejudices of the reformers, and thus lived in the peaceable enjoyment of the faith of his ancestors at a time when religious bigotry ran riot in England. He was a diligent student of antiquities, a proved scholar in classics, and some of his handiworks upon local affairs found their way to the Harleys, one of whom had married his sister. There is an oft-quoted MS. entitled “Warncomb's title to Lugwardin,” attributed to his pen, and the late Mr. Bird of Hereford claimed to have in his collection “several documents written out in the fair hand of James Warncomb.” What became of “his treasured books and valuable manuscripts” does not appear in any printed work we have seen, nor is the time of his death known to us, but he flourished in the early part of the seventeenth century.

WARNCOMBE, MAUD, daughter of Richard Warncombe, was born at Hereford in the early part of the sixteenth century, and according to an old manuscript she was “a ladie of commanding abillitie, of greate piete and goode estate.” We search in vain for her printed history under that name, but she occupies a very honoured and honourable place among the Harleys, having bestowed herself and her “greate estate” upon John Harley, son of another John (already noticed) in virtue of an agreement entered into between the parents of the young couple dated the 30th of March, 32 Henry VIII. Her share of her father's estate comprised “the manors of Aylton and Picksley, with lands in Bodenham, Welton, Gothermot, Leyntale, Starks and Elton, and several houses in Hereford and Leominster.” A zealous Romanist, she persuaded her husband to become one too, and Brampton Castle, their home, is known to have been a safe refuge for the Jesuit fathers, Parsons and Champain. Her life was a miracle of prudent piety, for she offended none by her intolerance, and she met with so much royal favour as to secure for her husband the constablership of Conway Castle under Elizabeth. She died in 1589, and her son, Thomas Harley of Brampton and Wigmore, who died in 1631, was worthy in every way of so noble a mother.

WARREN, CHARLES HENRY LYCETT, second surviving son of Joseph Loxdale Warren of the Towers, Market

Drayton, Shropshire, where he was born in the year 1833 was sent to Addiscombe College for his education, and sailed thence to India in 1852, where he joined the 8th Bengal Native Infantry as a Lieutenant. When the Indian Mutiny broke out, he was serving as Adjutant of the 12th Bengal Irregular Cavalry, and it fell to his lot to take an active part in quelling the rebellion. The gallantry he displayed in attacking and pursuing the Mutineers is matter of history, and being at Lucknow in charge of the baggage, he was sorely pressed by the enemy, and upon the 25th of September, 1857, he was shot through the heart. A brave soldier, a kind, considerate, and genial officer, his death was deplored by all classes, and his honoured remains were buried side by side with those of the gallant Neill in the far distant land which had been the scene both of their triumphs and of their glory.

WARREN, JOHN BYRNE LEICESTER, eldest son of the second Lord De Tabley, was born at Tabley House, Cheshire, in the year 1835, and educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where in 1854 he gained a second class in classics. As a descendant of the Leicesters and Warrens, two of the most eminent of Cheshire families, he is fairly entitled to some notice, but he has made for himself a name in letters which will always place him in the foremost rank of Cestrian worthies. A careful and accomplished student, a broad and fair-minded critic, he has used his pen to some useful purpose, and the works which he has written and published under his own name sufficiently evince the natural and acquired ability of the author, the scholastic turn of his mind, and the brave spirit which pre-distinguishes him from the common herd of the young aristocrats of the present day.

WARTER, EDWARD, born at Hanwood, in Shropshire, was educated at Cambridge, where in 1834 he obtained his degree with honours. His scholarship secured for him a fellowship at his College of Magdalene, where he worked as fellow and tutor, and eventually as president. He held a small living at Aldrington, in Sussex, but he spent many years of his life at Hanwood, of which living he was patron, being content to serve the curacy of that parish, so that he might dwell among his own people and in the shire he loved so well. He never lost his affection for the classics, but cultivated them to the close of his useful life. He died in 1878.

WARTER, JOHN WOOD, eldest son of Henry Diggory Warter of Cruckmeole, in the county of Salop, was born in the year 1806, and having passed through Christ Church, Oxford (B.A. in 1827) he proceeded to Copenhagen as Chaplain to the British Embassy, and remained there from 1829 to 1833. He was soon afterwards appointed to the vicarage of West Tanning, Sussex, where for the long period of forty-four years he ministered in holy things with great acceptance and affection. He married the eldest daughter of Southey, the Poet, and this will account for the pains he took in editing the literary remains of that eminent man. He also published "The Seaboard and the Down," in two volumes, "Parochial Fragments," and "Selections from Southey's Letters," in four volumes. He died in 1878.

WATHAN, JAMES, who, in 1814, published "The Journal of a Voyage to Madras and China," was a native of Herefordshire, where he had a considerable estate. He was much enamoured with the fine arts and had a taste for landscape drawing. This took him to India, and in the work named above, he illustrated with his pencil the scenery of that extensive country, so that he is fairly entitled to mention both as an author and artist.

WATKINS, EDMUND, born in the valley of Tillery, Monmouthshire, is accounted as amongst the ablest of

Baptist ministers living in the last century. Mr. Joshua Thomas, in his history of the Welsh Baptists, mentions him as among the students at Pontypool in 1741—as preaching at Aberdare in 1752, and at Dolau in Radnorshire 1790. Mr. Edmund Jones says of him—"He is a noted Baptist minister, and a gentleman of a very affable disposition." Well born, well educated, and noted as a preacher, it is remarkable that he clung somewhat tenaciously to the belief that the sons of men had immediate communion with spirits in the form of *Fairies*. Mr. Edmund Miles, a friend and acquaintance of his, who lived upon his own estate in Aberystwith parish, had witnessed some remarkable proofs of this intercourse. Mr. Edmund Jones, another friend of his, has published several instances in which this is made manifest, and according to a manuscript now before us, "Mr. Watkins firmly believed all that had been related by Mr. Jones and Mr. Miles." To us of the present day these marvels can have little or no value, but in 1676 a notable Welsh writer in his history of the Christian faith, says:—"For as formerly the Gospel silenced the voices and hindered the actings of devils, so now since the Reformation and repairing of the faith, these familiar devils the *Fairies* are not so bold as in the time of Popery, when they appeared in visible companies to deceive people into familiarity with them." This belief had not died out in one hundred and twenty years from that time, nor are we sure that some do not still cling to it in the Border Counties of Wales.

WATKINS, HERBERT, a Monmouthshire man of considerable note, who flourished in the early part of the seventeenth century, is not mentioned in any printed book, although his "well-deservings" fairly entitled him to notice. His role was that of antiquarian, bard, and collector of old Welsh manuscripts; some of his own compositions are excellent, many of his collected ones scarce, and of interest to the disciples of the bardic art. His grandson of the same name, was living in 1721, but he was Glamorganshire born, and his note-book contained numerous anecdotes of the grandfathers, which showed how skilled he was in the mysteries of *Barddoniaeth*. To the English reader this may be no commendation, but seeing how the Welsh have for centuries cultivated this peculiar art, how their history is often verified by it, and how high a place the bards occupy in their esteem, it is most fitting that the names of borderers who made it a study should be preserved with honour. Mr. Watkins certainly was a very accomplished scholar, for he translated his own Welsh verses into Latin, and some Latin ones into Welsh. He died in 1657.

WEBSTER, RICHARD, of Shropshire, was matriculated as a pensioner of St. John's College, Cambridge, in June, 1572—proceeded B.A. 1575-6—was elected a fellow on the Lady Margaret's foundation in 1577, and commenced M.A. 1579. On the representation of Dr. Legge's Latin tragedy of *Richardus Tertius* at St. John's College in 1579-80, Mr. Webster personated the character of Fitzwilliam, recorder of London. In 1581 he was instituted to the Vicarage of Madingley in Cambridgeshire. In 1586, he proceeded B.D. On 31 Dec. in that year he was installed a Canon of Westminster, and on 15 March, 1587-8 was installed Prebendary of Bullinghope in the Church of Hereford. He was D.D., and it is said that in 1595 he had a grant of the Archdeaconry of Middlesex. He died about January 1601-2.

WELD, SIR HUMPHREY, fourth son of John Weld of Eaton, in Cheshire, by Joanna Fitz-Hugh of Congleton, was born in Cheshire in the sixteenth century. He was Lord Mayor of London in the year 1608, and a member of

the Grocers' Company. Proud are "the Welds of Lullworth Castle" to trace themselves back to him, and through him to William Weld, Sheriff of London in 1352, who was lucky enough to marry Anne Wetenhall of Eaton, a Cheshire lass, and so to acquire a foothold in that "seed plot for gentry." The descendants of this loving couple passed through life uncared for, until this brave lad Humphrey took it into his wise head to foot it to London in search of a fortune. He amassed wealth by his industry, gained the good-will of the Londoners by his integrity, pushed himself to the seat of honour by the most honourable ambition, and when he died he left behind him an unsullied name, and a race of descendants who justly glory in his character.

WENLOCK, JOHN DE, son of William, of Much Wenlock, in Shropshire, is, we think, rightly claimed as a native of that county, although he has been assigned to other shires by some writers. He attached himself to the fortunes of Henry VI., and fought for him at the first battle of St. Albans, and for reward, he was knighted, made Constable of Bamburgh Castle, and appointed Chamberlain to the Queen. In 1459, however, he passed over to the Yorkists, and took a gallant part at Towton against the Lancastrians, and then he gained the stewardship of the Castle and Manor of Berkhamstead, and was created Baron Wenlock. When the Earl of Warwick endeavoured to restore King Henry to the throne, Wenlock revolted, and followed him, and he is known to have joined to Margaret of Anjou on the eve of the battle of Tewksbury. The Earl of Somerset, who was in command, doubted his integrity, and finding him idle when he should have been engaged in the battle, he cut him down for a traitor, and killed him in the market place of that town. His remains were interred in the great Church there, where his tomb is still to be seen. He had acquired an estate in Bedfordshire, and adjoining the church of Luton, in that county, there is a chapel founded by him, as is proved by the following lines:—

Jesu Christ, most of might,
Have mercy on John de Wenlock, Knight,
And of his wyffe *Elizabeth*,
Wch out of this world is past by death,
Wch founded this chapel here.
Helpe them with yr hartly prær,
That they may come to that place
Where ever is joy and solace.

WENLOCK, WILLIAM, who was prebend of Brownswood, in the Church of St. Paul's, London, in 1363, and had been for some time rector of St. Andrew's, Holborn, was made custos of the hospital of Farle in Bedfordshire by King Richard the Second, in the year 1379. He died in 1392, and was buried in Luton Church. After much enquiry we have arrived at the conclusion that he was a native of Wenlock in Shropshire, and the following inscription on his tomb would favour the correctness of this assumption.

In Wenlock bred I, in this town lordschipes had I,
Her am I now layed, *Christes* moder helpe me Lady,
Under these stones, for a tyme, schal I reste my bones,
Deye not I ned ones myghtful God graunt me thy wones, Ave.

Mr. Pennant saw this tomb and he says, "On the tomb lie the effigies of William Wenlock, in the habit of a shaven priest, his hands closed as if in prayer, beads hang from them, and on a label from his mouth is a small shield of a chevron, between three creslet gules, and these words:

Salve Regina mater miserecordie, Jesu fili dei miserere mei.

Lord Wenlock was his great nephew, and some suppose that it was he who put up this tomb, but we think that both it and the record of Lord Wenlock's good deed in erecting Luton Chapel, were done by William Wenlock, father to the lord in question.

WENLOCK, WILLIAM DE, nephew of the last mentioned, had been favourably disposed to the Lancastrians, and reaped his reward in the honours and riches which fell to the lot of his son John, who was known afterwards as Lord Wenlock. The Custos of Farle in Bedfordshire had probably gained wealth through the favour of the Court, and as it is known that our present worthy survived his son, and is likely to have been himself enriched partly by the benefaction of his nephew, he recorded the names and virtues of his kindred in the Luton chapel as given in the preceding notices. A learned antiquary in the neighbourhood of Luton calls attention to the fact that Lord Wenlock is mentioned as "a knight" only, no reference being made to the Barony, but Dugdale calls him Lord Wenlock, and we think that the father wisely overlooked the questionable circumstances under which he gained the higher honour, seeing that Lord Somerset had put him to death as a traitor to the Lancastrians, whose fortunes the father continued to hold fast to. This gentleman died in 1399, and is honourably mentioned as "a true patriot, and a loving friend to his country and kindred."

WHALLEY, HENRY, descended from a Somersetshire family of his name, but himself a native of Herefordshire, has the reputation of being "a strong Republican and a cruel enemy to the pious King Charles." He was no enemy to the King's person, though utterly opposed to the policy of his rule—a good and devoted Englishman who desired to see freedom of conscience allowed to all men; and when he found that to be impossible, he went over to America, and there enjoyed for himself the liberty which had been denied to him in his own country. He returned to Herefordshire when the Commonwealth had been well established, and died there; but the date of his death is uncertain, one fixing it in 1662, another much earlier. He wrote several religious works, but none of them would seem to have been published.

WHITMORE, HENRY, born at Apley, Salop, in the year 1813, had descended from a very ancient and well-known family, some members of which had dignified the name by services rendered to their country. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and in 1857 was elected M.P. for Bridgnorth. He never shone in Parliament, but Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli respectively made him a Lord of the Treasury, and for some time he was keeper of the Privy Seal to the Prince of Wales. There was something taking in the man; his natural kindness endeared him to his friends; his goodness to the poor was proverbial, and as one of the Parliamentary whips, his anxiety to assist his political opponents in the arrangements necessary to make public life tolerable, gained for him the esteem and respect of men of all creeds. He was an able man too, in a way, but he required to be known before he was appreciated, and in his line of life this was not always possible. He died suddenly in 1876, aged sixty-three.

WHITMORE, JOHN, son of Richard Whitmore of Heswell, in Cheshire, was chosen Mayor of Chester in 1412, and served that office for three years in succession. His grandfather had done the same in 1370, 1371, 1372, and, dying in 1374, he was buried, as we have said in another notice, at Trinity Church, Chester. This gentleman was a busy man of the world, and careful that the poor were not oppressed. King says how by his appointment "wheat was praised by the bakers and two citizens (of Chester) at three shillings and sixpence per quarter; so that if four Bushells went to the quarter, as at that time it is thought they did, that was but ten pence *ob* our old Bushell, that is about three pence our new Bushell." The importance of this oversight on the part of the Mayor is

best explained by saying that when in 1437 wheat was just double that price "the poor in Chester and elsewhere made them bread of Peason, Vetches, and Fern Roots," so scanty were the means at their disposal, so necessary that middlemen should not be allowed to rob them of the staff of life. Salopians, with pardonable ambition, claim the Whitmores for their own, but Cheshire is entitled to the first claim upon them. In 1450 a son of Mr. Whitmore's—William by name—was Mayor of Chester, and in 1473 the same office was held by his grandson John; with him died their municipal history so far as Chester is concerned, and it was about that time probably the family settled in Shropshire, where it has since flourished in great and deserved honour, down to our own day, when alas! strangers have possessed themselves of the Whitmore lands, and there remains to us but the remembrance of their unclouded glory.

WHITMORE, SIR THOMAS, son of Sir William, and grandson of old William of Claverley, was the first of his race, born at Apley, in Shropshire. His father and his uncle George had befriended King Charles in his sore extremity, and in 1641, probably by way of acknowledgment, this gentleman was created a baronet. Mr. David Lloyd says that as Sir Thomas Whitmore of Apley, he continued to succour the King, and if this be true, then we may reasonably conclude that he suffered for his loyalty, seeing that he lived for four years under the Commonwealth, and had a great estate in hand, for sequestration. He died in 1653, leaving by his wife Elizabeth Acton, an elder son William to inherit his property and his honours.

WHITMORE, WILLIAM, son of Richard Whitmore of Claverley, Shropshire, was born there in the early part of the sixteenth century, and although his family claimed descent from John Lord of Whytmere, living in the reign of Edward the first, he may in fact be looked upon as the founder of his family by his marriage with Anne Bond of London, and through the fortune he acquired there as a merchant. He had two very distinguished sons, Sir William and Sir George, the first was born in London, and we are unable therefore to claim him as a Salopian; the former however purchased and entailed the estate of Apley, and the latter served the office of Lord Mayor in 1631-2. Mr. Whitmore himself was a firm upholder of the reformation in religion, and a good friend to his celebrated relative and old neighbour Thomas Gataker, who died in the same year that he did. A true loyalist "he inculcated upon his sons the duty of submission to the powers that be," so that we cannot wonder to find these same sons among the principal supporters of the unhappy Charles, when troubles came thick and fast upon him. Mr. Whitmore died in 1608, and his eldest son then became the head of his family.

WHITNEY, ROBERT, a distinguished Herefordian, living in the days of our sixth Henry, is generally mentioned as that "Lord of Whitney," who was commissioned to arrest the celebrated Welsh leader, Griffith ap Nicholas. The son of the latter having noticed how Whitney had carefully placed his commission in the sleeve of his cloak, cleverly induced him to partake of his hospitality, and when he had made him drunk, he quietly possessed himself of the precious document, and so saved his father from arrest. Lewis Glyn Cothi, in his Epithalamium on his marriage to Alice Vaughan, dwells upon the wealth, consequence, and power of the "Lord of Whitney." He certainly was one of the chief men in his county, having under him "spearmen whose trusty arms stood him well," at a time when no one was safe without them; but then as now, the wine upset the best of calculations, and converted the proudest of leaders into a slave to his appetite. Griffith ap Nicholas lived to take his part in the bloody

affray of Mortimer's Cross, but there he died at the head of his wild Welshmen.

WHITTINGHAM, JOHN, born at Aston, Cheshire, in the year 1791, and in 1821 he was chosen by the Methodist Conference as one of their travelling ministers. For seven and thirty years he laboured with great diligence in the work of the ministry, and being a man of sound judgment, extensive reading, and of popular manners, his preaching was most acceptable, and the good he did remarkable. He is said to have written some theological works, but not having seen them we are unable to verify that statement. He died in 1861.

WHITWORTH, CHARLES, son of Richard Whitworth, of Adbaston, Staffordshire, was born, it is believed, at Wilmslow, in Cheshire, in the year 1673, his grandfather, Francis Morley, being rector of that parish at the time. He was educated at Westminster School and at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1720 he was created Baron Whitworth of Galway, in Ireland, and is celebrated in history as a distinguished and successful diplomatist. He died in 1725, and is buried at Westminster Abbey.

WICH, SIR HUGH, a celebrated London mercer, who served the office of Lord Mayor of London in the year 1461, was born in Cheshire, and it has been alleged that he belonged to the ancient family of Malbank, long settled in that county, but this is made out in a very clumsy and roundabout manner. It can signify but little whence he derived from, for it is honour enough to have filled the high post entrusted to him as Mayor of the chief city of the land, at a time when wealth, education, and character were all so many qualifications taken into account by the authorities before they selected their chief magistrates. Mr. Orridge has failed to give any better account of Sir Hugh than is mentioned above, and we must be content, therefore, to rest his claim to distinction in these sheets upon that of birth and official position. He served the office of sheriff in 1443.

WIDDOWSON, JOHN, son of a gentleman of the same name, was born at Northwich, Cheshire, and in 1809 he proceeded to the Manchester Grammar School for his education, and thence proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge. In 1814 an uncle of his died, leaving him some property, upon which he changed his name to Cheshire, and afterwards studied the law, but never practised in his profession. He was a most excellent scholar, and well versed in antiquarian knowledge, but none of his writings were ever published. He died in 1855.

WIGMORE, WILLIAM, born at Lucton, Herefordshire, about the middle of the sixteenth century, was reported to have become both "wealthy and wise" when he had grown into man's estate. His wisdom chiefly lay in his attachment to Queen Elizabeth's interests, and the clear sightedness he displayed in supporting the reformed religion, according to law. He did not persecute the old Catholics, nor did he favour in the least the Puritans, and somehow his wealth increased amazingly. We know that upon his marriage he conveyed in trust the manors of Kinton, Aston, Nether Kinsham, and Lytton, to Francis Throgmorton, a pretty clear evidence of his wealth; and we also know how well his wisdom befriended him when Throgmorton was attainted for treason and executed in 1584; for in the following year he got his property back safely under an order of Sir Francis Walsingham, when the Queen relinquished any right she might have had to it "unto the said William Wigmore, and his heirs," and so evinced her appreciation of his loyalty to her person and crown, and proved her title to the character of "Good Queen Bess." She had her weaknesses of a Tudor type, but so

had she some of the virtues which help to cover the little sins of Sovereign princes, and no Sovereign known to history could appreciate loyalty more than Elizabeth did. Few men in her day could outstrip our worthy in his prodigality of this profitable quality in Tudor times.

WILBRAHAM, CHARLES PHILIP, son of the late Randle Wilbraham, by his second wife, was born at Rode Hall, Cheshire, in the year 1810. He served for some time in the army, but in 1844 he followed the bent of his inclinations and entered the Church, serving it as Vicar of Audley, in his native county, for a great number of years; and afterwards as Vicar of Penkridge in Staffordshire, where he died on the 17th of December, 1879. Mr. Wilbraham had descended through a younger branch of the family from Richard de Wilburgham, who was High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1259; but his memory will be better cherished as an active and earnest minister of the gospel, and a traveller in many lands, who by speech and pen gave to his parishioners, and other of his countrymen, an intelligent and interesting account of what he had seen, and noticed in Iceland, Southern Europe, Egypt, and India, and in other parts of the world which he had visited. Some of his published lectures have had a large circulation. As soldier, author and clergyman he had a single eye to the glory of his master and the good of mankind, so that when he reached the end of his pilgrimage on earth he was very meet for the enjoyment of eternal happiness in heaven.

WILBRAHAM, SIR RICHARD. This gallant officer, born at Rode Hall, Cheshire, joined the army as second lieutenant in the year 1828, and having risen step by step he was made Lieut.-General in 1874, and Colonel of the 80th Foot the following year. He served in the Syrian campaign of 1840-41, and in the Eastern campaign of 1854-5, and for his services on these occasions he obtained the Syrian medal, the Crimean medal with clasps, was created a C.B., also an officer of the Legion of Honour; 3rd class of the Medjidie, and obtained also the Turkish medal, and has since become a K.C.B.. Sir Richard has been honourably mentioned as an author, and his work upon the Caucasus, published in London, is one of the most interesting volumes ever printed.

WILKINSON, SAMUEL, born at Newton-hill, Cheshire, in the year 1817, began to preach among the Methodists when quite a youth. He was educated at the Wesleyan Seminary, and in due time became "a circuit minister" in that denomination. His, is an instance of how useful a good man may be in the work of the ministry without the possession of great preaching talents. He was a frank, bright, manly character, good to the poor, a consoler in affliction, a ready helper in trouble, so that when the eye saw him it blessed him; and few men carried brighter comfort to desolate homes than he did. For nine and thirty years he lived thus, not to himself but to God. Suddenly, in March, 1877, he was called to his reward, and he was mourned for by thousands who felt that his gain was a bitter loss to them. His works do follow him, for he left many seals to his ministry.

WILLIAMS, ABRAHAM, was born at Panteg, Monmouthshire, in the year 1720. He is eminent as a "chief singer" among the Methodists, and in this way he did immense service to that sect, for he induced hundreds to join classes to practice in sacred song, and so brought them under the influence of the "exhorters" who preached to them on Sundays. In 1758 he became an Independent minister at New Inn, in Glamorganshire, and continued to labour there for more than 25 years in that capacity. He was as eminent as a preacher then as he had once been as a singer. Popular always, he drew many of his countrymen to the

habitual exercise of religious practices, improved the moral tone of society, and helped to build up the churches upon the Congregational model in the rural districts of that shire. He died in 1783.

WILLIAMS, DAVID, "a Waterloo veteran," was born at Buildwas, Salop, in the year 1791, and having enlisted in the Royal Artillery in 1810, he was sent to Spain in 1814, and fought there under the immortal Wellington, and at Waterloo the following year. Returning to England, he was discharged from the army, and became a workman under the Darbys at Coalbrookdale where for the long space of sixty years he continued his service of toil in the service of the best and kindest of masters. He died in 1878. We cannot boast of his blood, his learning, or his eloquence as a claim to distinction; but the man of humble birth who adventured his life in the service of his country, when all the powers of Napoleon were set in motion against her, is deserving of the highest commendation. In his humble way he was a patriot, and we venture, therefore, to enrol his name in these records as one of the Salopian worthies.

WILLIAMS, JAMES, born in Herefordshire, is said to have been a near relative of Dr. David Williams of Hereford. He was sent to Westminster School for his education, and in 1688 he was elected thence to Cambridge. In 1691 he graduated B.A.; 1695, M.A.; 1709, D.D.; "a good writer, and a finished scholar," is the sole record of his life, but we may assume from the highest honours paid to him by his university that he was also "a good divine," and a printed sermon preached in 1710 under that designation, would fairly bear out that assumption.

WILLIAMS, JOHN, a native of Chester, should be honourably mentioned, as a young Englishman who left his home for India to gain fame as a soldier. He served with credit in many a hard fought battle under the flag of the East India Company. The history of the British aggressions in the East is a remarkable chapter in the records of military life, it is worse than useless to discuss the policy which carried our arms to that distant part of the globe, for whether it had been designed to serve humanity, or to further our own commercial interests, the energy with which it was carried out, and the results of it prove sufficiently how brave a band the men were who were the instruments employed to ensure its success. We know that they were gallant men that they fought with desperation, that they conquered many warlike tribes, and succeeded in placing their own flag upon the heights of some of the strongest fortresses in the world. John Williams was not a whit behind the best of them. In 1782 he filled the then important post of town major at Bombay, and this office he administered with a kindness, a discretion, and a fortitude that commanded universal applause. His name is often mentioned with respect, and Major Price, the great Oriental scholar, who knew him well, refers to him with eulogy in the autobiographical memoirs, he had written for the press. He cannot, therefore, be unworthy of a place in these records, for he did honour to Cheshire by his services in the army.

WILLIAMS, JOHN, born at Shrewsbury in the year 1790, is justly designated "A Salopian Veteran," for he enlisted into the 53rd Regiment of Foot at the age of seventeen, and before very long found himself face to face with the enemy in Spain. He fought at Talavera, Busaco, Cuidad Rodrigo, Salamanca, Burgos, Vittoria, San Mercial, Nivelle, and Toulouse; wounded at Salamanca in the head, he lost a leg at Toulouse, and thus, to follow the fashion of the times, he may be said to have covered himself with glory. He was discharged from the army in 1815, on a pension, and thenceforth he is known to local his-

tory as the parish clerk of Condovery, where for fifty years he did service in the church to the satisfaction of all his neighbours. This man of humble parentage is as worthy of respectful remembrance as if he had been a prince, for he suffered for his country, and gave those proofs of soldierly valour which has made Englishmen famous. He died in 1873, at the ripe age of eighty-three.

WILLIAMS, MERIET, born at Worthyn, in Shropshire, 1627, was the youngest daughter of Richard Powell, and a descendant of Lord Chancellor Bromley. She married John Williams of Ystym Colwyn, of the same family as the celebrated Archbishop of York of that name. Her goodness and charity to the poor, gave her a claim to honourable notice, but she was also a learned woman, an excellent poet, and wonderfully well versed in the legendary lore of the Welsh Borders. Some of her writings were published, but under an assumed name, and mostly in the "Collections" of other people. She died in 1702, and is said to have been buried at Meifod, Montgomeryshire. Mr. Walter Davies, in one of his numerous letters to Hugh Jones of Chester, says, "Her life should be written out in full, for she was a mother in Israel, and a notable woman for her times."

WILLIAMS, THOMAS WALTER, a great law writer, was born at Usk, in Monmouthshire, 1760. It has been the fashion to say he "was not much known as a pleader," but towards the close of the last century his name was a household one among justices of the peace, and the equally useful, though more humble officials called parish officers. His "Original Precedents in Conveyancing," 4 vols., 1792, gave him a claim to distinction in the legal world. In 1795 his "Whole Law relative to the duty and office of a Justice of the Peace and Parish Officers" passed through the press in 5 vols. And in 1798 he published an "Abridgment of cases argued during the reign of George III.," in 5 vols. From that time to his death he published several other learned works; and an annual abridgment of the statutes of each year. A painstaking writer and a clear appreciation of law he secured for his name honour and respect.

WILLS, FRANCIS, a native of Sandbach, in Cheshire, founded in 1718 a free school in that town, and endowed it with a sum of money to be expended annually in the education of twenty boys who are to be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic; three of them to be prepared for the University. He is supposed to have derived from an old Cheshire family called Willis, and a very eminent judge of that name claimed kindred with the founder of Sandbach School, but a close examination of the pedigree founded upon this assumption shows that the eminent lawyer in question was mistaken.

WILSON, HUGH OWEN, born at Shrewsbury in the year 1825, is deserving of mention as the grandson of Mr. Archdeacon Owen, and a scholar at the Grammar School of his native town. He graduated at Oxford, B.A. in 1844 and M.A. in 1848, and having chosen the Church for his profession, he became in 1849 rector of Church Stretton, and a pattern clergyman. He was merciful as a magistrate, kind to the poor, and exemplary in the discharge of his duties in the parish. All these qualities are so many testimonies to the worth of the man; they may not be rare among the clergy, but where they shine out as they did in this instance, they become so many living sermons to men; they help to mould character, to cultivate the Christian graces, and to lift our thoughts to the great source of all good. This kind and genial man died in February, 1879, to the great grief of all who knew and appreciated him rightly.

WILSON, SAMUEL, a native of Shrewsbury, who became M.A. at Oxford in 1677, had matriculated there in 1670 upon his election from Westminster School, where he had been educated, but nothing more is known of him as a student. He is supposed to have written divers books, but in no instance have we seen them mentioned, nor is it very clear that he ever published anything under his own name.

WIMPRISS, EDMUND MORRISON, was born at Chester in the year 1835, and having when a child displayed a taste for drawing he was educated for an artist. His early pictures shewed that he had the promise of a great painter about him, and of late years his productions have secured eager and appreciative purchasers. Few men in his line of art have excelled him, and Chester may well be proud of so worthy a son.

WINSTON, JENKIN, a native of Herefordshire, is mentioned in song as a famous Borderer, who, "out of his abundant love for the people of Gwentland, acquired a thorough knowledge of their language, and became a Welshman in principle and in practice." We sincerely hope not, for in his day it was a cherished principle to hate the Saxon, and a fixed practice to slay him. The true story is, that Winston had a love for literature, and that he befriended the bards and minstrels when most Englishmen cursed them all round. The Borderers had their hands full, for Edward the Fourth was king, and men buckled on their swords to fight under the "Roses," and to slay all comers who presumed to differ from them in colour. We need not doubt the valour of Winston, but he had the high honour of trying to cultivate the graces of literature and music, when others were devoting all their thoughts to war. A time came when the Bards remembered all this, and then the minstrels sang his praises as a friend whose memory should be held in remembrance, and thus his name comes down to us, glorified and sanctified as a man of peace, and a true patriot.

WODENOTE, THOMAS, a native of Monmouthshire, was one of the active Royalists who attended upon the Earl of Glamorgan, and cheerfully sacrificed all he had in the world in supporting the interests of the Stuarts. He is supposed to have been in the confidence of Queen Henrietta, and to have passed over the seas as her trusted messenger to the French Court, but under a feigned name. He was living in London long after the Restoration, but in the most abject poverty. His royal master having done nothing for him, although both he and his owed so much to him. Some have named him as the writer of "Hermes Theologus," published in 1649, but in error, for the author of that work was Theophilus Wodenote, no relation of his.

WOLFE, EDWARD, a Salopian by birth, and living at or near Madeley in the early part of the seventeenth century, is spoken of as one of the co-partners who promoted the early development of the mineral industries of that part of the county. One Walter de Caldebrook had obtained a licence from the Prior of Wenlock in very early times "to dig for coales in Le Brockholes," and sometime in the sixteenth century some part of the minerals in the neighbourhood passed under a grant from the king to Robert Brook, and coales as well as iron ore were worked there. Coalbrookdale probably sprang out of a combination of some of these names, and Mr. Wolfe, we imagine, was one of the early promoters of the undertaking, which subsequently became so well known as the Coalbrookdale Company. The celebrated quaker family of Darby came upon the scene in or about the year 1700, and some think found the old works in which Wolfe had been interested

still in existence. We have no wish to rob the Darbys of any share of their well-earned fame as Shropshire coal and ironmasters, but we claim for Edward Wolfe the credit of having pioneered this great enterprise, and of being in that way a great benefactor to his native county. He was living in 1638, and either he or one of his family sheltered King Charles when passing through Madeley.

WOLFE, FRANCIS, a native of Madeley, in Shropshire, who died in 1665, had the honour (as he doubtless esteemed it) of protecting Charles II., when on his flight from Worcester. The event has acquired an historical interest, because of the evidence in support of it, thus recorded upon a handsome silver tankard, once in possession of the family—"Given by Charles II., at the Restoration, to F. Wolfe, of Madeley, in whose barn he was secreted after the defeat of Worcester, 1651." We suppose that Mr. Wolfe was a Catholic, and known therefore to be trustworthy, for he is said to have had "hiding holes for priests," when that unfortunate race of men had to fly from their cruel persecutors. Sad is it to think that any Christian men should have been so dealt with, in this land of freedom, but since it happened so, well was it for the persecuted ones, and indeed for the nation, that good men and true were met with, who dared risk property, liberty, and life in the merciful work of providing shelter for God's people, and Mr. Wolfe's name comes down to us as that of a pious, merciful, and loyal man, and does honour, therefore, to the county of his birth.

WOOD, ANDREW, a native of Shropshire, and educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, is mentioned in the University records as B.A. in 1606, M.A., 1609, Fellow of his college, 1610, B.D. 1616, and D.D. 1639. He contributed to the University collection of verses, on the death of Henry Prince of Wales, in 1612; on the death of Queen Anne, in 1619; on the death of James I., in 1625; and in the same year upon the marriage of Charles the first. He wrote in Latin hexameters "The Litany," which was dedicated to Henry Lord Holland, Chancellor of his University, and some other writings are also attributed to his pen. We have seen no printed account of this worthy, nor do we know the time of his death.

WOOD, WILLIAM, a Cheshire man by birth, was admitted into the ministry of the Wesleyan Methodists in the year 1828, and soon afterwards he proceeded to Jamaica to labour among the Negroes. He was especially fitted for that work, for he took a warm interest in their temporal welfare, their education, and their elevation in the scale of humanity; and thus acquired a spiritual influence over them, which helped to bring them to a better acquaintance with their duty to God. In the very midst of his life he was called to a higher inheritance, and to be forever with his Lord, for he died in 1835, mourned by a loving and affectionate people who had learnt to look up to him as a friend and a brother.

WORTH, ROBERT, who married in 1343 Jane Tytherington of the parish of Prestbury in Cheshire, "gave Chelford to the Monks of St. Werburgh, on condition of their sending a priest to celebrate mass for the souls of himself and his ancestors on Sundays and two week days, and on the four days to say mass at Prestbury Church before the altar of St. Nicholas." He was a member of the very ancient Cheshire family of De 'Worths. That he was a religiously disposed man is clear enough, but somewhat more exacting than another Prestburian mentioned by Sir William Dugdale, who in 1699 found this epitaph in the churchyard—

These good I had whilst I did live
Unto poor Monks I freely gave
To eat and drink and make good cheere
And say my Obit once a year.

WRIGHT, THOMAS, son of Laurence Wright of Nantwich, in Cheshire, was appointed rector of Wilmslow, in the same county, in the year 1610. He suffered for his loyalty to the Crown, for in 1644 his living was sequestered and he was ejected from the parish. "He was violently attacked by the Rebels in his own parsonage, and some of his servants killed." That must have been when Captain Duckenfield commanded in Cheshire; the offence was to be deplored on all grounds, but especially so against so good, honest, and eminent a person as Mr. Wright, aged too, for he is said to be near eighty when this occurred. He was restored to his living in 1660, but died the following year.

WYKE, JOHN, a native of Monmouthshire, in 1812 published "The English and Welsh Cattle Doctor," and for many years that work was held in great reputation in Wales. He carried on the business of an apothecary and druggist at Abergavenny, and was much esteemed for his knowledge of medicine and for the art of healing by the ordinary use of simple pistules. He made no pretence to the higher branches of medical practice, although it is said he knew far more than most country doctors did.

WYKE, RICHARD, son of Abraham Wyke, was born at Broseley, Salop, and succeeded his father in his practice as a surgeon in that town. He had descended from a very ancient Salopian family, who, if they had no great wealth to boast of, could at least dwell upon the singular merit of having regarded religion as a rich inheritance for many generations. Dr. Wyke himself was an eminently good man, earnest in his faith, active in the promotion of it, and always animated in all he did or said by the simple but honourable desire of doing his duty as in the fear of God. He published, in 1844, a volume of poems, entitled "Balisarius, Ludlow Castle, and other Poems"—a work of no great merit in itself, but indicative of the turn of mind which led him to abandon for a time the serious for the imaginative aspect of life. He died unmarried. We have heard it said that he possessed a peculiar knack of describing the beauties of the Severn from its source—

From the bosom of the mountain,
From the silent lands of night,

as it sparkled along its course to the greater waters which conveyed it to the sea—a sort of prose poem style, partly real and partly imaginative, but always so true to nature that every place of note upon its banks came out so well that it was impossible not to be interested in the narrative.

WYLLYSON, RICHARD, born near Lugwas, Herefordshire, in the year 1524, was a person of considerable consequence in his day. He must have been a Protestant, for "he lyked not Philip of Spain," that dislike being so efficacious as to carry him abroad, for safety we opine; for Mary, whatever her faults may have been, liked not those who objected to her husband, and still less if they objected to her religion. He spent a good many years in Germany, but we know that he had come back to England in 1566, and that he was living at Lugwas in 1574, for in that year he conveyed some of his lands to John Seborne of Sutton, and he and Seborne together conveyed in the same year other lands to Thomas Wilton of Ledbury. In fact he had suffered in purse as well as in person for his faith, but he held fast to it, and gave aid and succour to others "who clung to Christ, although in doing so they offended the powers that be." That has a Puritan sound about it, and although he is not mentioned as among the Brownists it is very probable that he had come back from Germany more or less touched with that infirmity.

WYLYMS, WILLIAM. This Salopian marched with Richard Duke of York to Blackheath in 1452, when that

wily Prince pretended to take up arms for effecting a change of ministry, so that the country should "growe to the more ease, pees, tranquillitie," and so forth. Mr. Blakeway prints in extenso the letter addressed by the Duke to his "right worshipful friendes, the Baillys, Burgeys, and Commons of the good town of Shrewsbury," and he adds "there can be little doubt that, in consequence of this letter, a body of Salopians, formed part of the army with which the Duke marched to Blackheath." When Edward the Fourth came to the throne, Wylms sent in a claim for his expenses, and in the second year of that King's reign the bailiffs of Shrewsbury paid him 6s. 8d. "for his journey to the Blackheath with the Duke of York, in recompense of his charges and costs there incurred." So little did it then take to convert a loyal subject into a rebel and in a like cheap manner a rebel could be converted back into a loyal subject. This somewhat unworthy personage, however, enables us to mark the striking change which set in just then, and how wonderfully Shropshire was affected in the direful quarrel of the Roses.

WYNNE, RICE, an apothecary at Shrewsbury, in the early part of the present century, was born, it is said, in or near to that town. He was a person of some eminence and very well versed in his art, but he is best known as the writer of "Particulars of the successful treatment of a case of hydrophobia," published in 1813. He contributed several papers to the medical journals of his time.

WYNNINGTON, ROBERT, who died in the year 1460, was born upon the border line separating Salop from Hereford, and is noted for his sturdy adherence to King Henry the Sixth. He had been educated for the law, but being a restless personage he became the friend and companion of Sir Edmund Mulcho, a Northamptonshire knight who served as Governor of Calais, and there under the eye and tuition of his chief he learnt the art of war. Both he and Mulcho saw much service in France, and upon the death of his chief in 1458 he returned to England, where he died, as we have said, in 1460.

BYE-GONES,

RELATING TO

WALES AND THE BORDER COUNTIES.

1878-9

MRS. HARDCASTLE.—Ay, *your* times were fine times, indeed. . . I hate such old-fashioned trumpery.

MR. HARDCASTLE.—And I love it. I love everything that's old: old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine.

OSWESTRY:

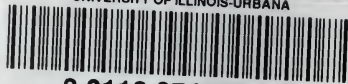
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